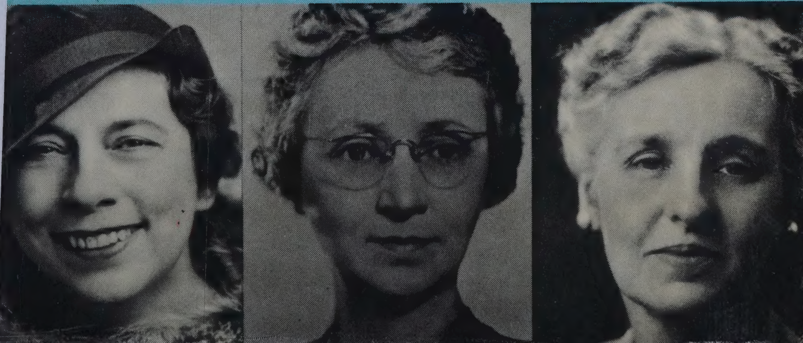
First Ladies of Indiana and The Governors

1816-1984

Margaret Moore Post



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First Ladies of Indiana

and

The Governors

By
Margaret Moore Post

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For My Daughters
Sue Ellen Walker
and
Joann Long
and
to the memory of
First Lady Beth Bowen
who had the idea for this book.

Preface

As a longtime reporter for The Indianapolis News I covered Indiana political conventions at the State Fairgrounds Coliseum where gubernatorial candidates and their wives waited anxiously while delegates voted for the man who would run for governor.

I followed the campaign trail of wives who traveled up and down the state, speaking about their husbands during breakfasts at churches, luncheons in homes and dinners in hotels.

Beginning in 1976 when gubernatorial candidates were nominated in Indiana's primary election, my focus was on wives at victory celebrations.

In 1969 the first inaugural ball in many years attracted so many well-wishers that Governor and Mrs. Edgar D. Whitcomb were welcomed at two halls — the Murat Temple and the Indiana Roof Ballroom. I ran from one to the other.

The splendor of the 1973 ball in the new Convention Center drew even more guests to honor Governor and Mrs. Otis R. Bowen — and again at the second Bowen inauguration in 1977, and the ball in 1981 in honor of Governor and Mrs. Robert Orr.

It has been a privilege to know and write about Indiana's recent First Ladies in their busy, day-to-day role. Most of the seven living First Ladies said the job was full-time, leaving few days for public service or promotion of educational and cultural projects in which they would liked to have worked. One said her job was to take care of her husband who had been elected by the people of Indiana for a four-year term.

In addition to accepting many honorary chairmanships, Mrs. Orr has directed the interior decoration of the entire Governor's residence.

But what of Indiana's other First Ladies, who like those today were not elected or appointed?

None had a vote until 1920 when Indiana was 104 years old.

They are that little known, but exceptional group who have had a responsibility that was uniquely theirs: to keep their husbands' feet on the ground, to open the residence for many events, and to do whatever else time allowed.

From 1816 when 24-year old Ann Jennings witnessed Indiana's admission to the Union and the election of her husband as Indiana's first governor, to 1984 when Joanne Wallace Orr has round-the-clock activity, the wives of governors have made significant contributions to the state.

The Hoosier State's First Ladies have had no common denominator of birth. Some had humble beginnings; others were born into wealth and prominence.

Some came from the East or South to seek a new land or to get away from conflicts concerning the Civil War. All deplored slavery and worked for civil rights long before action by people in many other states.

The strength and fortitude of these women have been shown in crises, political upheavals, wars and family sorrows. What is apparent is not the similarity of the women, but the differences. Drama translates into human experience by reading about them.

Two First Ladies rode horseback 1,100 miles round-trip to Washington, D.C. with their husbands who served as Territorial Representative and Congressman. They passed through Indian camps and slept in tents in frigid weather.

Many years later one First Lady ferried bombers, pursuit and cargo planes from factory to field during World War II.

The daughter of one Indiana governor became the wife of a generation-later governor. One was the wife of the only preacher who became governor of Indiana, and another was the wife of the only physician in the nation to be governor of a state.

One First Lady helped with the encampment of Civil War recruits while her husband spent day and night at work at the Statehouse. Another defied Army restrictions during the Civil War, crossed the lines and nursed her husband back to health. But she contracted smallpox and was blind the rest of her life.

Carolyn Willard's brother was hanged for participating in the Harper's Ferry tragedy. Wives of two governors were left penniless as widows, but one started a boarding house and the other sewed for a living.

First Ladies of Indiana made few political statements, but during and/or after their years in public life, some were leaders in education, farm management, temperance, parenting, combating child abuse and crime, and helping to make America beautiful. Some loved to bake cookies, two wrote cookbooks, one liked to hang wallpaper.

Wives of governors made Easter a special day for crippled children by inviting them to an egg hunt, and the women made Christmas more meaningful for mental health patients through a gift lift. One First Lady helped to found a home for friendless women, and another originated an annual prayer breakfast in Indiana.

Many were great beauties, all were intelligent, capable and ambitious for their husbands and children. The seven living First Ladies are known for their remarkable ability, vitality and charm.

Indiana's First Ladies do not lend themselves to easy generalizations, nor do Indiana's governors about whom I also have written. Perhaps these stories about 43 women — and the governors — will allow the reader to share for a moment the lives, background and environment of these important citizens.

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Ann Gilmore Hay Jennings

(1816 - 1822)

Company was coming to the Governor's Mansion at Corydon, Indiana.

President James Monroe and General Andrew Jackson with members of their staffs were to be dinner guests of Governor and Mrs. Jonathan Jennings at 4 p.m. June 22, 1819.

The news soon spread to the town's 344 residents. The President and the General were returning from a Western trip and were coming to Corydon from Nashville, Tennessee. They were to arrive at Jeffersonville at 11 a.m. and were to be escorted by the state militia to Indiana's capital.

Ann Jennings, one of the most beautiful young women in the state, at 27 was mature beyond her years. As First Lady, she and the Governor had entertained many distinguished people following the Constitutional Convention and Jennings' gubernatorial victory over Thomas Posey in 1816.

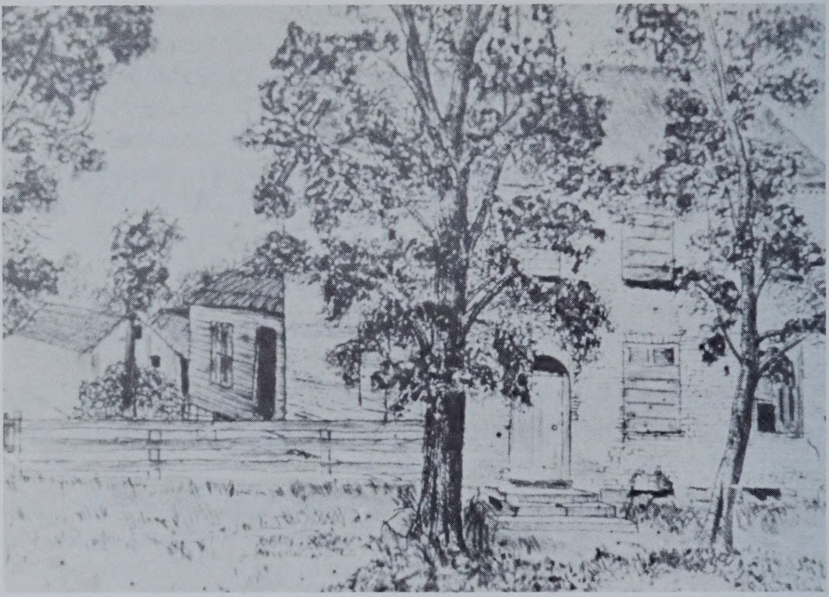
When she lived in Washington while her husband was territorial delegate, she met President Monroe who was then Secretary of State in President Madison's Cabinet. She looked forward to the state occasion.

The Governor's Mansion was on an imposing site, one block north and two squares east of the Capitol on a hill overlooking the town. The structure was marked by elegance of the time.

Built of brick made on the lot as needed, the two-story house had 12-foot ceilings and an interior finished in hand-carved hardwood. There were large, open fireplaces and windows framing views of a brick-paved court, a three-terraced hillside and stables for horses, carriages and sleighs.

Ann no doubt checked to be sure the mansion was in order. China, crystal, silver, candles and linens were inspected for readiness. Baskets of garden flowers were brought in for a dining table centerpiece and for distinctive bouquets in other rooms. The menu was planned carefully.

Entrees were to be a whole roast pig, adorned with an apple in its mouth, and venison. One of the desserts was to be cherry pie, made from fresh, red cherries which grew in abundance in southern Indiana.



Indiana's First Governor's Mansion at Corydon

Young girls who lived in Corydon begged the privilege of serving as waitresses during the dinner.

Among guests were Ann Jennings' young sister, Julia Hay, and her older brother, Andrew Hay, a medical school graduate, and his wife, Sarah Stites Fannie Bainbridge Gano Hay.

Much like legislators, judges and travelers who had been guests of the governor and his wife, the dinner guests probably talked about the unprecedented immigration to Indiana, the pioneers who traveled up the Wabash River and founded the town of Terre Haute and the effects of the Panic of 1819.

But the latest news on the Missouri Compromise, the subject that was stirring the entire country, was that sought from the President.

Lighter subjects may have been introduced by Ann Jennings, known as a gracious and diplomatic hostess.

The distinguished visitors spent the night at the inn in Corydon, and left the next morning at 5 o'clock for Louisville. They were accompanied to the ferry by Governor Jennings, General John Tipton and other dignitaries. Many townspeople gathered to wish the guests well on their trip across the river.

News of the President's visit was published in the Corydon Indiana Gazette and the Vincennes Centinal.

A century later, Mabel C. (Mrs. Frank C.) Morrison of Indianapolis, great-granddaughter of one of the guests at the dinner, Ann's brother, Andrew, published a booklet entitled, "Ann Gilmore Hay, Wife of Jonathan Jennings."

"The story of Ann Jennings has the magic touch of youth so fitting for the first days of Indiana history," commented Frances (Mrs. Albert L.) Rabb, Mrs. Morrison's daughter, who assisted with research.

Ann's birthplace was Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Her parents, John and Nancy McCampbell Hay, moved there in 1790 from Rockbridge County, Virginia, traveling by horseback across the Daniel Boone trail. Pack mules carried their household goods.

In December, 1790, a son, Andrew, was born to the Hayses, and on April 16, 1792, a daughter was born. They named her Ann Gilmore Hay.

Hay was a prosperous surveyor whose business and political advice was sought by many people. In the mid 1790s, he bought a tract of land near Georgetown, about 12 miles from Lexington.

Ann spent her childhood and growing-up-years in the Blue Grass region of Kentucky where many families from the North, East and South settled after the Revolutionary War. These were people of education and refinement, fond of gaiety and good living.

Georgetown had a paper mill, and Rittenhouse Academy was founded there in 1798.

Lexington, 12 miles from Georgetown, boasted thriving commerce. The Kentucky Gazette began publication there in 1787. Transylvania University — attended by Andrew Hay — moved there from Danville in 1788, and tradesmen sold everything from bonnets to books.

Ann's mother, who was of Scottish Presbyterian descent, supervised the child's schooling; and Ann learned to read, write and cipher at home.

Horsemanship was second nature to Ann, and she was skilled in spinning, weaving and embroidery. Descendants have preserved a sampler made by Ann when she was eight years old and a linen spread for which she spun the flax and wove the material before she embroidered it.

Creative work, suitable clothing for all seasons and good manners were stressed by Ann's family and others of affluence.

When Ann was 17, her family moved to Charlestown in Indiana territory where her father built a large log house on a hill. The family then had five children younger than Ann.

In 1809 Jonathan Jennings went to the home of John Hay to enlist support for his candidacy for territorial delegate to Congress. Jennings, who was born in New Jersey in 1784 and grew up in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, came to Vincennes, the capital of Indiana Territory, in

1807. He was admitted to the bar in Vincennes and served as a clerk in the land office.

The next year he left Vincennes and settled in Charlestown. Jennings spoke for the anti-Harrison and anti-slavery factions. In his plea for support, he pointed out that his presence in Washington would be decisive in assuring the admittance of Indiana to the Union as a free state.

At the Hays' home, Jonathan met Ann.

"The Kentucky maid had bloomed into a beautiful young woman with large brown eyes, reddish brown hair, fair skin and graceful carriage. Her manners were most pleasing. Her voice had an enticing, soft southern accent," Mabel Morrison wrote years later.

Romance began that day for Ann Hay and Jonathan Jennings. The story is told in Mrs. Morrison's book.

Jennings was elected territorial delegate over Thomas Randolph, the Virginian who had been appointed attorney general for the Indiana Territory by Governor William Henry Harrison. Randolph disputed the election, but Jennings was seated by Congress, and he was re-elected in 1811, 1812 and 1814.

Jennings kept in touch with Ann, and when he returned after his first year in Washington, he brought her a miniature of himself which she wore in a locket. The painting of Jennings in the Indiana Governors' Portrait Collection was made from the miniature.

Ann's father died in 1810. The young couple waited a year, and they were married August 8, 1811.

The marriage record of "Anny G. Hay and Jonathan Jennings" signed by James Lemon, magistrate, is in the Clark County Court House, Jeffersonville, Indiana.

The bride and her husband rode 17 days on horseback to reach Washington after he was re-elected to Congress for two years. She rode side saddle, wearing a long riding skirt. Her trousseau was in saddle bags on the 550-mile trip through Indian territory.

Ann's mother had tucked some money in a secret place in her clothing for her to spend in Washington shops which advertised elegant silks, velvets, turbans, pelisses and great coats.

The couple passed through several Indian camps, and when inns were too far apart they slept in a tent. A congressional delegate's allowance was six dollars a day for traveling expenses. Indiana Territory inns charged 25 cents for lodging and the same for a meal and stabling a horse. Eastern inns were more expensive.

The Jenningses stopped in Pennsylvania to visit his parents. His father was a minister, and his mother was an educator with a doctorate.

Washington was not a beautiful city in 1811. Streets and housing were described as "miserable." But for Ann Jennings, a 19-year-old bride from the frontier, days were marked with exciting experiences.

Dolley Madison soon learned of Ann's arrival and invited her to parties. With Dolley at the social helm following her husband's inauguration in 1809, the Executive Mansion became the focus of entertainment and fashion. Festivity was the keynote in presidential entertaining.

Mrs. Madison's New Year's Day reception dress was described as pink satin, trimmed with ermine, and she wore a white velvet turban with a crescent crowned with nodding ostrich plumes.

Ladies could visit the House, Senate and the courts, and there were many parties.

To campaign for the 1813 election, the Jenningses returned to Charlestown,which in 1812 had became the seat of Clark county. Malaria was raging and Ann, who accompanied her husband during his campaign, served many times as a nurse in homes where entire families were sick. She straightened rooms, freshened the beds and cooked for those able to eat.

Then Ann experienced grief and added responsibility in her family. Her mother and her brother, John, died within four days in September, 1813, and she assumed much of the responsibility for five brothers and sisters, the youngest seven and five. She took charge of the household until her older brother, Andrew, married in 1815, and he and his wife helped with the children.

Apparently Ann never returned to Washington. Ann and Jonathan had no children.

In 1816 Congress authorized Indiana to call a convention to formulate and adopt a constitution. Jonathan Jennings was elected a delegate and chosen president of the convention.

Indiana's constitution prohibited slavery, gave broad powers to the General Assembly, granted universal suffrage to white males, required a referendum on calling a new convention every dozen years and called upon the state to establish a system of education, from township schools to a state university, the first state constitution to include such a provision.

On adjournment, Jennings announced himself as a candidate for governor; and in the election, with 5,211 votes, he was victorious over Thomas Posey, the last territorial governor, who received only 3,934 votes.

The Jenningses then moved to Corydon to the house described above — known now as Indiana's first Governor's Mansion. The governor's salary was $1,000. During legislative and court sessions the inns and boarding houses were filled with guests, and the Jenningses did much entertaining.

Jennings served two terms as governor, leaving office in 1822 after his election to Congress. He was re-elected to Congress in 1824, 1826 and 1828. Ann remained at the family home at Charlestown while her husband was in Washington.

In 1824 Ann's health began to fail, and when she became gravely ill, she was moved to the home of her brother, Andrew, on Court House Square in Charlestown. Her youngest sister, Julia, 18, was with her when she died in 1825 at the age of 34.

Indiana's first First Lady is buried in an unmarked grave in the old Charlestown cemetery.

"We have no photographs, memorabilia or possessions of Ann Jennings," Susan P. Bennett, Charlestown public library historian, said in a letter.

Six months after Ann died Jennings married Clarissa Barbee, who had come from Kentucky to teach in the seminary at Charlestown.

According to Indiana historian William Wesley Woollen, Jonathan Jennings lost his seat in Congress in 1830 because his friends were concerned about his drinking problem. He spent his last years on his farm near Charlestown, but he had financial difficulties. It was only through efforts of friends that he was allowed to remain on the farm until his death on July 26, 1834, at the age of 54.

He was buried in another Charlestown cemetery, and 60 years passed before a marker was placed at his grave by the state.

Virginia S. Tolson, Ijamsville, Maryland, a descendant of Julia, Ann's sister, is searching for a water color portrait of Ann Jennings, said to have been painted when she was 11.

A silver spoon which belonged to Ann, marked with a "J" on the handle, was handed down to the Morrison-Rabb family in Indianapolis as were Ann's sampler, mentioned above, and a small trunk-shaped box containing old title deeds and records. Dr. Frank M. Rabb, his children, and the children of the late Albert L. Rabb Jr., of Indianapolis, are descendants of Ann Hay Jennings' brother, Andrew Hay.

Deliah Anderson Boon

(1822)

The original marriage bond of Ratliff Boon and Deliah (sometimes spelled Delilah) Anderson dated "this 6th day of August, 1801" was salvaged from the Warren County, Kentucky, Courthouse basement in 1954.

Helen Thomas, Bowling Green, Kentucky, rescued the marriage license and other valuable papers when the Courthouse basement was remodeled.

As a result of her thoughtfulness, premarital records of Indiana's second governor and his choice of First Lady are included in "Warren County, Kentucky, Marriages 1797 to 1851 from the Original Marriage Bonds and Consents," by Helen Thomas, Mary Rabold and Elizabeth Price.

Deliah was First Lady of Indiana for only three months — from September 12, 1822, to December 5, 1822, when her husband, who was lieutenant governor, filled out the unexpired term of Governor Jonathan Jennings. These were important days for her, however, and for her politically inclined husband.

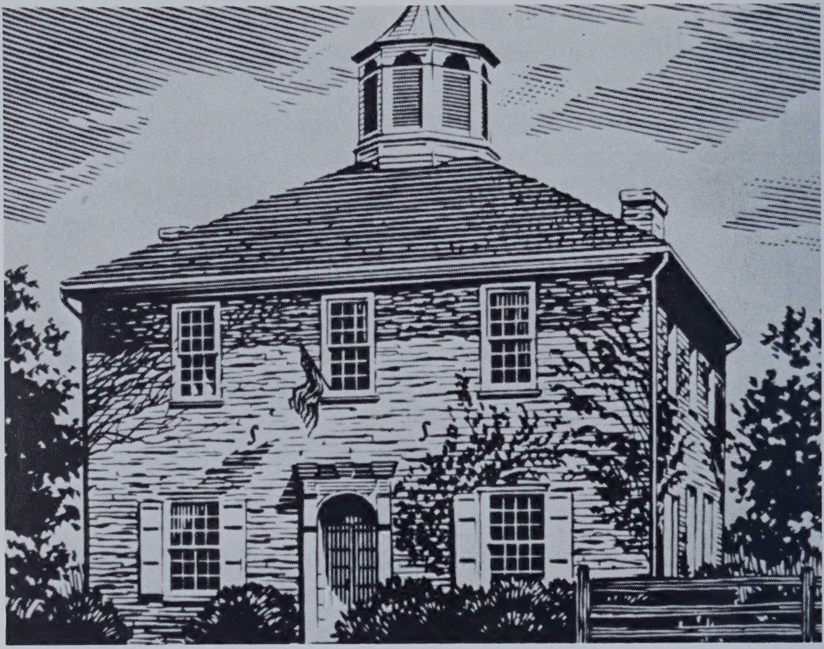
Ratliff Boon was born January 18, 1781, in Georgia or North Carolina (records differ on place), the son of Jesse and Kessiah Boon. He attended common schools in Warren County, Kentucky, where his family moved when he was a child. He learned the gunsmith trade in Danville, Kentucky.

Deliah Anderson was the daughter of Bailey and Mary Anderson.

"Bailey Anderson was a very early settler in Warrick County, Indiana, coming first by himself and later bringing his family," according to Mrs. James E. Miller, Boonville, who has done much research on the Boons and Andersons. "He is said to have lived in a tree near the Ohio River when he first came here," Mrs. Miller added.

Ratliff met Deliah in Danville, Kentucky, while he was working as a gunsmith. They were married August 13, 1801.

In 1809 they moved to Indiana Territory and located in what is now Boon Township, Warrick County. Boon bought land two miles west of the village then called "Settee-Down" (now Boonville). The name was



Indiana's First State Capitol Building at Corydon

given the area by the Delaware Indians. He built a little log cabin which is still standing near the corner of First and Main Streets.

"The 'Boon House', as it is called, has been remodeled many times. Its logs were covered with siding and additions built," Catherine Aust, a long-time Boonville resident, said. "Several years ago some of my schoolteacher friends lived there, and it has been kept in good living condition."

Homer Lenn of Newburgh, Warrick County, said stories about the First Lady and his great-grandmother, Elizabeth Boon, sister of Ratliff Boon, have been handed down through generations.

"Families then made-do with simple necessities for daily living," he said. "There was a big fireplace for warmth and cooking in the Boon cabin, and there were shuck or straw beds on frameworks of poles — and later feather beds. Quilts, coverlets and clothing were handmade.

"Like other women of the time, Deliah wore plain dresses with an extra shawl in cold weather. The Boons had use for trundle beds since they had 10 children, five boys and five girls.

"Cornbread and Johnny cakes were baked in the fireplace, and hominy, vegetables and fruit, with dried provisions were available for winter use."

The family story includes Boon's part in family living. He taught his boys to farm, to hunt and to fish. Venison, turkey, squirrel and fish from nearby creeks provided food for the growing family.

Boon liked to put on buckskins and go hunting. Once in later years he almost bankrupted the state treasury by collecting a $700 premium at one time for the number of wolves he killed.

The state was infested with wolves. Farmers could not raise sheep, and a law was passed providing premiums for wolf scalps. The law failed to designate the kind of wolf for which the premium would be paid. Boon hunted prairie wolves — not the large gray species that preyed on sheep. The year after he collected $700 the legislature repealed the wolf law.

The Boon children often visited their grandparents, the Bailey Andersons, who moved to southern Indiana in 1806.

Ratliff Boon entered a long political career when he became Warrick County treasurer in 1813. The county seat, Boonville, is named for him.

In 1816, after Indiana was admitted to statehood, he was elected to the House of Representatives and was re-elected in 1817. In 1818 he was elected to the state Senate from Warrick County.

In 1819 Boon was elected lieutenant-governor on the ticket with Jonathan Jennings. When Jennings resigned as governor in September, 1822 to enter Congress, Boon filled out his unexpired term.

The log cabin where the Boons lived became the ''Governor's Mansion.'' There is no evidence that Deliah went to Corydon, the state capital, for any state or social functions.

In towns near the Ohio River about 1,820 imported goods began to appear for sale, and some women made dresses of broadcloths, brocades, taffetas and peau de soies. No mention is made in biographies of Deliah that she wore elegant clothes.

One biographer said of Boon: ''Indiana's second governor accomplished almost nothing during his term of office. But then it lasted only 81 days.''

William Hendricks' inauguration as governor on December 5, 1822 ended Boon's governorship. He had been re-elected lieutenant governor in the Hendricks election, and served until January, 1824, when he decided to run for Congress.

Elected as a staunch Jacksonian Democrat that year, he was unsuccessful in his bid for re-election in 1826, but was elected to the five succeeding Congresses, serving 12 years in all, 1825 to 1827, 1829 to 1839. In 1836 Boon was a candidate for the United States Senate but was defeated by Oliver H. Smith.

There are no records that Deliah ever accompanied her husband to Washington while he was in Congress.

The Boon family moved to Louisiana, Missouri, in 1839, and Ratliff took part in politics of that state.

By then tragedy had struck along with fame and prosperity. Seven of their children died of unspecified diseases. It is assumed that they died of malaria for the river bottoms and flat lands of Warrick County were breeding places of the mosquito.

Only two daughters, Minerva and Matilda, and a son, Bailey H., lived to maturity. Matilda married John Folks Jr. Nothing is included in family history about Deliah's life in Missouri.

Boon was defeated for a Missouri congressional seat in 1844 and soon afterward he retired to a farm. In 1844 he participated in the presidential campaign as an advocate of the election of James K. Polk.

Bitterly opposed to Henry Clay, Polk's opponent, Boon exclaimed when Polk's election was announced: "Now I am ready to die!" And within a few hours he was dead.

"A modest looking tombstone, of a pattern commonly used 100 years ago, suffices for Boon and his wife, Delilah Boon" according to a news story reprinted in the Missouri Historical Review, for January, 1931.

"The inscriptions on the stone read:

Ratliff Boon
Died November 20, 1844
Age 63 years, 10 months and 2 days.

— — —

Delilah Boon
Consort of Ratliff Boon
Died Dec. 16, 1848
Age 66 years and 8 days"

"We never have been able to locate a picture of Deliah Boon, but we prize very highly a portrait of my great-grandmother, Elizabeth Boon," Homer Lenn said.

"Our son, Dr. Steven Lenn, Danville, Kentucky, has the portrait in his home, and I have a copy of it," the Newburgh resident said.

Dr. Lenn is a Hanover College and Indiana University School of Medicine graduate. He spent a year at Beirut, Lebanon, as an exchange student.

The Lenns' daughter, Tara Sue, also a Hanover graduate, is now Mrs. William French. She lives in Indianapolis and is State Medicaid Director in the Indiana Department of Welfare.

Ann Paul Hendricks

(1822 - 1825)

When Ann Paul Hendricks died at 89, September 12, 1887, she had witnessed the entire development and history of the city of Madison and the state of Indiana up to that time.

Beginning with the crude log cabin and pine knot of the pioneer, she saw the firebrand give place to the tallow dip, the candle to the lamp and manufactured gas, and the latter to the electric light.

She was the daughter of Colonel John Paul who founded Madison, Indiana, and the wife of Governor William Hendricks, the state's third chief executive.

"Mrs. Hendricks more than any other resident of Madison bound the present with the remote past in our local history," said the Madison Courier following her death. The story was a reprint of an article which appeared in the Courier January 4, 1886.

"Her father, Colonel John Paul, was the founder of the city. Her husband, William Hendricks, was a bright, energetic, able lawyer, editor, politician, governor and United States senator.

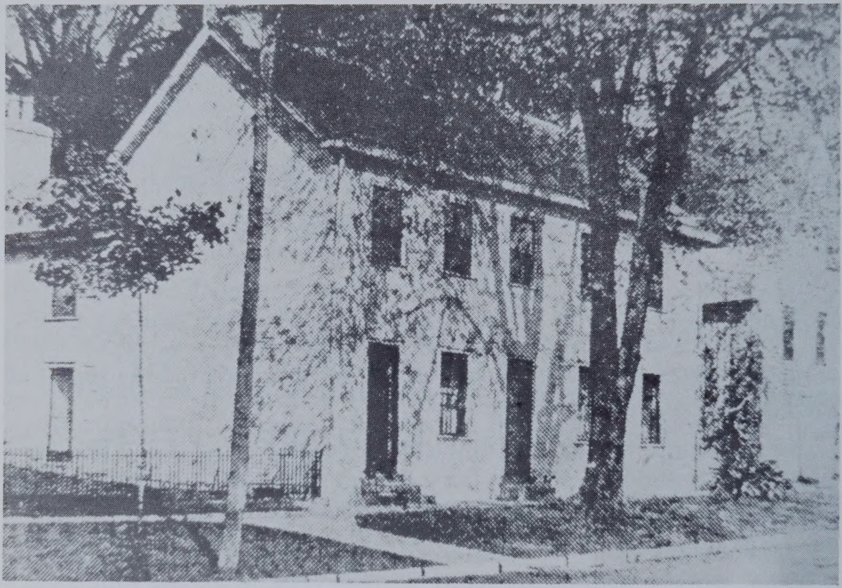
"The Madison of two or three detached cabins became under her eye the complete and active modern city," the story said. "The territory of Indiana was the home of wild beasts and savage men when she came here. The Pigeon Roost massacre, the great league of Tecumseh and the battles of Tippecanoe and the Thames were all events that were consummated during the period of her intelligent observation.

"All of Indiana's proud, pushing, panoramic progress has passed in rapid succession before her vision."

She was born at Elizabeth, Hardin County, Kentucky, March 18, 1799.

Her father, John Paul, was a Pennsylvania enlistee in the company of Captain William Harrod, under General George Rogers Clark during the campaign against the Indians and the British in Indiana and Illinois territory.

He moved to Hardin County, Kentucky, in 1781, and served as the county's first clerk and recorder.



Old Griffin Home, Corydon, residence of Governor and Mrs. William Hendricks

Ann Paul Hendricks' mother, Sarah Thornberry Paul, was born in Baltimore County, Maryland, in 1775; and at 16 moved with her father's family to the wilderness of Kentucky at Danville. She and Colonel Paul were married in 1794.

For 20 years the couple lived in cabin homes, remote from other settlers. Colonel Paul chose mill sites rather than villages in lowlands.

The Pauls' first-born daughter, Mary Berry, died at the age of two in 1798. Ann had a brother, John Peter, born in 1800, and a sister, Sarah Grover, who was born in 1802.

Their cabin often was surrounded by bands of roving Indians who camped in the woods, hunting for weeks at a time. Mrs. Paul had to cope with trials and privations of frontier life, for Colonel Paul was in Ohio, other areas of Kentucky and Indiana territory on business and public affairs ventures.

He purchased shoes and other clothing for his family in Cincinnati where he traveled by horseback and boat.

In 1800 the Pauls moved to Greene County (then Hamilton County), Ohio, and John Paul was a member of the first session of the Ohio Senate. He founded Xenia, Ohio, in 1804.

When Colonel Paul visited Indiana Territory in 1808 he purchased the site of New Albany at a public land sale at Jeffersonville. He sold this site a year later to a man named Scribner and purchased the site of Madison. He was instrumental in having the town laid out and named in honor of the fourth president of the United States. He was the first territorial representative from Jefferson County, but lost his seat when Clark County was formed from Jefferson. He was a member of Indiana's first constitutional convention and was elected to the first state Senate.

During Ann Paul's girlhood, her hometown of Madison had four brick buildings, 20 frame structures and about 100 log cabins, according to records of the John Paul chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, 1945. A contagious disease caused much sickness during 1820 and 1821, but the epidemic disappeared in 1824 and Madison prospered. By 1840 there were approximately 3,800 inhabitants.

Families which migrated from the East and South to the picturesque river city brought with them substance of culture and elegance of living. Families in colonial homes up and down the river were hosts at parties and dances, and Ann Paul became known for youthful beauty and dignity.

In 1812 a genial young man, William Hendricks, arrived at Madison bringing his printing press with him. The son of Abraham and Ann Jamison Hendricks, he was born November 12, 1782, in Ligonier Valley, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. He was brought up on a farm, and in 1810 graduated from Jefferson (later Washington and Jefferson) College. He read law and was admitted to the bar when he moved to Cincinnati.

When he came to Madison he practiced law and published the Western Eagle, a weekly, the second newspaper to be established in Indiana Territory.

He was six feet tall, with blue eyes and red hair. He often was invited to Madison parties, and Ann Paul was a favorite companion of Hendricks.

The Hendricks-Paul nuptial bans were published in the Eagle. Ann Paul was 17 when she and William Hendricks were married on May 19, 1816.

He already was in the public eye as the Jefferson County representative to the 1813 territorial General Assembly, and he served as speaker of the House in the 1814 session. Two years later the attorney was secretary of Indiana's Constitutional Convention, and he was elected Indiana's first congressman in 1816. He sat in the House of Representatives from 1817 to July, 1822, when he resigned to become a candidate for governor of Indiana.

William Hendricks was a victor in the gubernatorial "race" before the polls opened. He had no opponent and received 18,340 votes — all that were cast.

By then the Hendrickses had two children — Sarah Ann, born in 1818, and William, born in 1821. The boy lived only nine months.

According to one source, when Hendricks was inaugurated as governor, he and Ann took their children, their horses and furniture by flatboat to Jeffersonville. From there they went by stage to Corydon, while the furniture was put on horse-drawn wagons. Three other families were on the boat, including that of Samuel Merrill, the state treasurer.

While in Corydon, according to the same source, the governor rented what has become known as the Hendricks-Porter-Griffin home, located on East Walnut Street. It was built in 1817 by Davis Floyd, who was then judge of the Second Judicial Circuit. In 1841 the house was purchased by William A. Porter, a lawyer and judge, and in 1872 it became the home of Patrick Griffin, a dry goods merchant and his wife, Helen, daughter of William Porter.

The house was built flush with the street with a hall running from the front to the back. There were two rooms upstairs and two downstairs, one on each side of the hall. Two more rooms were constructed on the west side, one up and one down, and in this downstairs room was a large fireplace which burned four-foot-long cordwood. The fireplace had a crane on which Ann Hendricks could hang her cooking utensils. Each of the other five rooms had fireplaces, which added a cheery atmosphere and provided warmth in winter.

Occasionally Ann had to cope with a water problem. A steep hill back of the house sloped toward the back hall door, and when there were dashing rains, water rushed over the hill so fast that it flowed through the back hall and out the front.

Corydon was a busy place during legislative sessions. The inns were filled with Hoosier representatives and senators, and even in that day there were lobbyists. The Constitutional Elm was not only a symbol of early Indiana history, but a place where visitors paused for conversation under the tree's towering branches which measured 125 feet.

On February 16, 1825, Hendricks resigned as governor, having been elected to the United States Senate. Re-elected in 1830, he served until 1837, having been defeated for re-election by Oliver H. Smith in 1836.

The conservative Hendricks, elected as a Democratic Republican, was a firm believer in internal improvements and supported the building of roads and canals. He became chairman of the Senate committee on roads and canals in 1830 and served in that post until 1837.

He was a foe of slavery and championed education in Indiana. He may have been a schoolmate in Pennsylvania of Andrew Wylie, first president of Indiana University. Hendricks served as a trustee of the university. He was an uncle of Thomas A. Hendricks, also a Democrat, who became the 16th governor of Indiana, a United States senator and vice-president of the United States.

After 21 years in public service, he returned to Madison where he practiced law and managed his considerable property.

The Hendrickses had nine children. In addition to Sara Ann, born in 1818, and William, born in 1821, died in infancy, the Madison-Jefferson County Public Library lists them: John Abraham, born 1823 and killed March 7, 1862, at the Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas in the Civil War; Josiah Grover, born 1825, and later moved to Wisconsin where he died in 1900; William Parker, born 1829, died 1897 in Madison; Paul, born 1832, died 1854; Thomas, born 1836, died December 19, 1863, of wounds received in the Battle of Bayou Teche during the Civil War; Mary, born 1839, died in infancy, and Ellen C., born 1844, moved to Springfield, Missouri.

Hendricks died on his farm near Madison on May 16, 1850, and was buried in the family vault, built to his own specifications, on his farm northeast of Madison. A plaque honoring him was dedicated at Fairmont Cemetery on the hilltop on Michigan Road above Madison on May 19, 1880.

Ann lived on some 37 years, as noted above. An obituary stated that "she retained excellent possession of her faculties and superintended the management of her household until the last..." She was buried in Madison Cemetery at Fairmount, at her request, the Madison Weekly Courier, September 14, 1887 said in an obituary.

Esther Gay Booker Ray

(1825 - 1831)

Esther Gay Booker was a young widow living at Centerville when she met James Brown Ray, ambitious young politician who was president of the Indiana State Senate, an office with considerable prestige.

Esther was the daughter of John Gay, Revolutionary War soldier, and Nancy McKee Gay. Gay was born in 1762 in Rockbridge County, Virginia, and was commissioned ensign in the Second and Sixth Virginia militia in 1779 when only 17. According to family records, he was with Washington's army at the seige of Yorktown and witnessed Cornwallis' surrender. He rose to the rank of major.

Records of the Gay family in the Centerville and Center Township Library show that after the war John Gay operated a large plantation and was owner of many slaves to whom he granted freedom after a few years. He raised ginseng in large quantities and shipped it direct to China, receiving one yard of silk in exchange for one pound of ginseng.

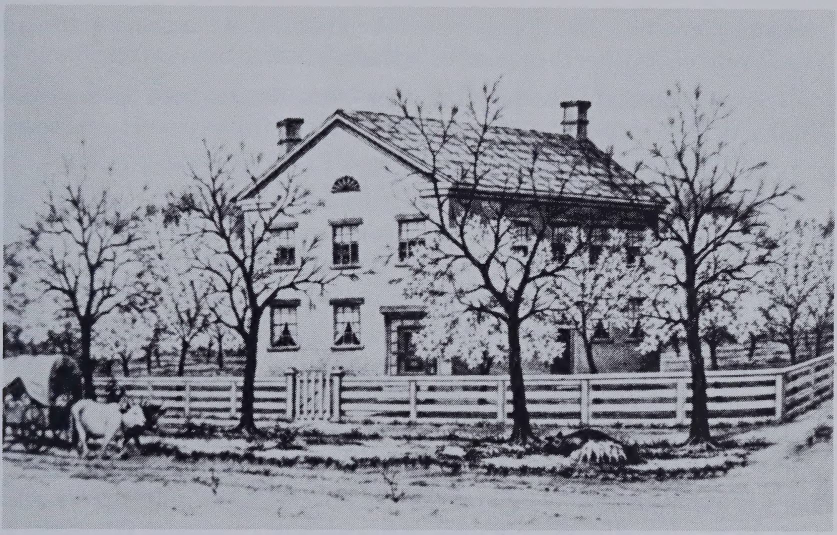
He and Nancy McKee were married in 1793, about 10 years prior to their trek to Kentucky where they lived several years. No mention is made of her death in Indiana records of the Gay family, and it is presumed that she died in Kentucky and was buried there.

The Gays were parents of two sons and five daughters — John McKee, James Dunlay, Jane, Elizabeth, Esther, Melinda and Nancy. In Major McKee's will, drawn in 1822 and probated at Centerville, Indiana, in 1827, Elizabeth is referred to as Betty, and Esther is called Hetty.

Major Gay, who moved to Centerville in 1807, owned a 200 acre farm in Wayne County. The Beula church, one of the first congregations in Wayne County, was located in one corner of his farm, and a cemetery adjoined the church. Major Gay also had a tavern in Centerville. He died in 1827, and an official marker furnished by the U.S. government was placed on his grave in Centerville.

Esther Gay married Samuel Booker who had a general store and tavern in Centerville. He died only a few months after their marriage, and she erected a large sandstone monument at his grave.

Now enters James Ray, widower.



Governor's Home on the Circle, Indianapolis, Indiana

A native of Jefferson County, Kentucky, he was the son of William Ray, a veteran of the Revolution, and Phoebe Ray. He studied law in Cincinnati, and moved to Brookville, Indiana, in 1818, bringing with him his bride, Mary Riddle of Hamilton, Ohio.

The couple set up housekeeping in Brookville. Many scholarly citizens, ambitious to get ahead in law and politics, lived there.

Ray was admitted to the practice of law during the September term of the Franklin County Circuit Court.

In 1821 he was elected to the lower house of the Indiana General Assembly, and the next year Ray was elected to the state Senate for three years. When Ratliff Boon, the lieutenant governor, resigned in January, 1824, to run for Congress, Ray was elected president pro tempore of the Senate and then filled out the unexpired term of Governor William Hendricks when the latter was elected to the United States Senate in January, 1825.

The state constitution provided that the governor "shall be at least 30 years of age." Some critics claimed that Ray became governor at the age of 28. His father testified at an official inquiry that his son was 30, but never specifically stated a date of birth. Ray recorded his birth date as November 19, 1794.

Despite the questions about his age, Ray campaigned for re-election on a platform of building roads and railroads in the state. He was elected twice as governor, serving from February 12, 1825 to December 31, 1831.

Meanwhile, Ray's personal life had many changes.

His wife, Mary, died in July, 1823, leaving him with two small children, James G. and Mary Ann. The children are not mentioned in family references after their mother's death.

Seven months after his first wife died, he married Esther Gay Booker of Centerville.

He had built a handsome, two-story home at Brookville, then an area dotted with log cabins and modest houses. Most Hoosiers of that time, in their struggle against the wilderness, were plain-living people with neither time nor means for the niceties of life. But Ray was a flamboyant man who loved flourish and display.

His house was a frame structure, with a lean-to kitchen at the rear. On the south side of the second story was the crowning symbol of profligacy in the Ray residence, a Palladian window made of stained glass panes imported from the East.

Political opponents of Ray, in his race for the governorship, saw the fancy window as a warning that he would be reckless with hard-earned tax money. He won the election, but with a margin of 1,600 votes in 25,000, defeating Isaac Blackford, a Supreme Court judge.

Ray was the first governor to live in Indianapolis. In November, 1824, the state capital was physically transferred from Corydon to Indianapolis. Samuel Merrill, the state treasurer, was appointed by the legislature to superintend the removal of records, documents and public property of every description to Indianapolis by the second Monday in January, 1825.

Tall and erect, Ray dressed "to the nines" and wore his long hair braided in a tail-like queue which hung down his back. He used a walking cane, and at street corners, he sometimes stopped and waved his cane upward to do imaginary writing, presumably in expression of his thoughts. He had one crossed eye which lent a fey touch to his dashing figure.

He was positive, provocative and hot-tempered. Ray got into street fights with people who did not share his opinion and wound up with his ruffled shirts bloody and torn and his velvet breeches ruined. During his early days as a lawyer, he came to blows with an opposing attorney, and both went to the floor in the courtroom.

While engaged in an argument about an impending court trial, he tweaked the nose of Calvin Fletcher, well-known Indianapolis attorney, but bystanders intervened to prevent a fight. Ray continued his habit of tweaking noses, however, if people annoyed him.

But there was another side to Ray. He fought hard and successfully for internal improvements at a time when Indiana needed roads and railroads. A friendly editor characterized him as "bold, energetic, enterprising and decisive."

He advocated railroads over canals, and his obsession with railroads was proof he was "daft" in the view of canal men, who considerably outnumbered railroad men in the early 1800s.

He launched his controversy with his 1829 message to the legislature. He argued that railroads were "obsoleting" canals — that they could move goods cheaper and faster, that they could be used 12 months a year instead of 10, that they cost less and posed no danger to health from stagnant water.

During Ray's administration construction of the Michigan Road and the Wabash and Erie Canal got underway. He made the project possible by helping to negotiate a treaty with the Indians in 1826 which obtained from them the right of way for a road from the Ohio River to Lake Michigan through Indian territory.

But Governor Ray forecast that one day Indianapolis would be a great rail center with lines radiating in all directions and with towns springing up every 10 miles along the way.

Angered canal men charged his talk about railroads was "deranged babbling" and further evidence that the man was "crazy."

On the transportation score, Ray proved to be a prophet who lived without honor. Only seven years after his death, his forecast came true. In 1855 eight railroad lines steamed in and out of Indianapolis' first Union Station, and more were on their way to make Indianapolis a railroad center.

Throughout the railroad debate, Esther was her husband's captive audience — sometimes for hours at a time. She saw a practical vision in the transportation plan that others ignored. On some of her husband's ideas, however, she was not in agreement.

No matter where he went, Ray always signed himself as "J.B. Ray, governor of Indiana and commander in chief of the army and navy."

Once Governor Ray, with his love for the theatrical, arrived on a foam-flecked horse for the nick-of-time rescue of 17-year-old John Bridge Jr. from the hangman's rope at Pendleton. He stopped the hanging by leaping on the gallows platform and announcing that "only two powers on earth can save this boy from death. One is God Almighty and the other is Governor James Brown Ray. I am Governor Ray, and I hereby pardon this boy."

The boy's father and two other men earlier were the first white men to be executed for killing Indians.

One of the most controversal subjects which arose during Ray's administration concerned a residence for the governor in the new state capital. In a letter in January, 1827, Ray reminded a House of Representatives committee that in the previous session of the body he had asked that suitable buildings be erected for the Governor because such buildings were not available to be rented. He said he therefore had erected suitable housing at his own expense.

In 1827 the Indiana General Assembly appropriated $4,000 to erect a house for the governor on the Circle. Samuel Merrill and Benjamin I. Blythe were appointed to contract for its construction.

The story of the Governor's Mansion is recorded in "The Circle," by Ernestine Bradford Rose, published by the Indiana Historical Society in 1957 and reprinted in 1971 for the Indianapolis Sesquicentennial Observance.

Final cost of the large two-story brick house which faced south was $6,500. The mansard roof had a railed level space on top like a widow's walk. Broad flights of steps on each side led to entrances to the main floor which was six feet above the ground. The house was surrounded by a rail fence.

Esther was not asked for counsel, nor were other women consulted.

The interior was poorly planned for home living. Each floor was cut into four large rooms by two broad halls which crossed the center. The walls had sliding panels so that the four rooms could be thrown into a large hall for festive occasions. There was no kitchen. The rooms were drafty, and the basement was damp.

During construction Esther occasionally was queried about progress on the house, but she merely changed the subject. When the house was completed, she was shown the structure which was to be her home.

"She flatly refused to live there, saying that every family in town would be able to inspect her washing on Monday morning," according to Mrs. Rose's book. "Even the enticements of a beautiful yard and garden and a stable across the street could not mollify her."

The Rays and their five children, Indiana, Eliza Jane, Virginia, Sarah and John W., continued to live in their own home while the new mansion stood empty.

No governor's family ever lived there. The Supreme Court judges had offices in it. The State Library was housed there until its own quarters were ready, and the State Bank did business there in 1834. A kindergarten called "an infant school" was conducted in the basement. Isaac Blackford lived in quarters in the mansion while he served as judge of the Supreme Court.

Fashionable young people played battledore and shuttlecock in the halls, and Fanny Vandegrift, later Mrs. Robert Louis Stevenson, is said to have played in the house with her six sisters and brothers. In 1848 the newly formed Indianapolis Medical Society met in the mansion once a week.

Inaugural balls for governors were there, and the first fair sponsored by a ladies' missionary society was there on New Year's eve in 1836. The women raised $230.

When the house began to deteriorate, Mrs. Rose, in her book, said that tramps slept in the deserted rooms; and there was a story about a giant who thumped about the house at night. A daring youth, Aaron D. Ohr, captured the giant — a wild turkey.

Finally the house was ordered demolished. In 1857 it was sold to David Macy for $665, and part of the material was used to construct the Macy House, a hotel at Illinois and Market streets.

Ray's career as a public figure was short-lived. When he left the governor's seat, he was still in his thirties, but his efforts to gain other elective offices failed. In 1833 he announced as a candidate for Congress and then withdrew. He ran unsuccessfully for Marion County clerk in 1835, and also for Congress. He tried newspaper publishing and merchandising without success. In 1841 he left Centerville, where he had tried various business ventures, and returned to Indianapolis to resume his practice of law.

Little is recorded about Esther Ray's life during these pillar to post years, but on August 20, 1847, Calvin Fletcher made this entry in his diary: (copy in Indianapolis — Marion County Public Library and in Indiana Historical Library) —

"Mrs. Ray Governor (R's) wife called on us in consequence of the ill treatment of her husband. She wishes an inquest held to show him a Lunatic. . . Poor Mrs. Ray is fallen from a comfortable condition to that of anguish & trial — has a helpless family — an insure & evilly disposed husband — supposed to be insane but I think from his nativity he has been a perverse man — governed by his love of popularity avarice & lusts — All now aggravated by disappointment."

Mrs. Ray applied for a divorce in the July term, 1845, of the Marion County Circuit Court. The suit was dismissed the following term (January, 1846) at the defendant's expense. A new suit was brought at the October term, 1847. Ray failed to appear when the case came up, and there was no further action.

James Ray died of cholera August 4, 1848, in Cincinnati and was buried in Spring Grove Cemetery there.

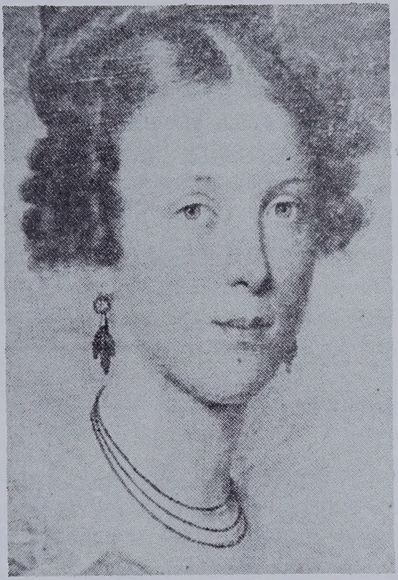
The Calvin Fletchers befriended Mrs. Ray who lived near them, during her terminal illness, according to two August, 1850, entries in Fletcher's diary. Mrs. Ray was stricken with cholera.

She died August 15, and the Fletchers invited the Ray children for supper and to stay overnight. The funeral was the following day.

Mrs. Ray had asked Fletcher to take charge of her youngest son, Johnny, eight years old, and look after his property. The attorney kept his promise, and in his diary, July 8, 1864, he told of Johnny, 21, returning from three months in the army. Fletcher had held some 400 dollars in money and real estate valued at "some 4 to 5000$"

Eliza Ray married Judge William Garver of Noblesville. The Ray family Bible was given to Eliza's niece, Mrs. Arch Olds of Crawfordsville. The Bible now is in the possession of Richard A. Olds, Kalamazoo, Michigan, who said in a letter: "Arch Olds, whose widow, Esther, died in 1981, was a first cousin of my late father, and was the only son (adopted) of my grand uncle Mort Olds.

"I find no record in the Bible of the death of the governor's wife, and there are no entries about descendants."



Catherine Stull Van Swearingen Noble

(1831 - 1837)

Catherine Stull Van Swearingen had every advantage and joy that came from living in a southern wonderland — her family's spacious plantation at Berryville, Virginia.

Born on August 23, 1801, she was the daughter of Eli and Ann Noble Swearingen. Her father was president of the bank in Winchester, Virginia. She lived a picturesque life with servants to answer every need. She had her own horses, carriage and driver.

Kitty, as she was called, was said to have the sort of silky black hair that takes on a russet tinge under the glow of candles. Her skin was more moonlight than cream.

As she grew up, she came to know her second cousin, Noah Noble, some nine years older than she, but little did she dream that one day she would become his wife and the fifth First Lady of Indiana.

Noah Noble, the son of Dr. Thomas and Elizabeth Noble, was born January 14, 1794 in Frederick (now Clark County) Virginia. His father and Kitty Van Swearingen's grandfather were brothers. The families were often together with other relatives and friends at festive dinner parties and special occasions.

Close family associations were broken when the Thomas Noble family moved to Kentucky about 1800. Then in 1811, when he was 17, Noah moved to Brookville, Indiana, to join his brother, James, who was practicing law there. Later James served in the Indiana Territorial Assembly, as a member of the Indiana Constitutional Convention, and as United States senator from 1816 until his death in 1831.

Largely self-taught, Noah had business ventures in Brookville including land speculation and the operation of wool-carding machines. When he decided that law was to be his career, he returned to Virginia to study with his Uncle George Noble. But there is no record that he pursued this study.

Back in Virginia Noah rediscovered his cousin Kitty. She was, he found, the most charming young woman he had ever met.

They were married on November 8, 1819, in one of the oldest churches in Virginia which was built on land once owned by George Washington's brother, Charles. Elaborate plans were made for the wedding, and relatives and friends from miles around were guests.

The trip to Indiana by horseback was much different for the young couple than travel had been for some pioneers. Kitty and Noah were accompanied by black servants, who were the dowery of the bride, and pack horses carrying her trousseau and family gifts.

Noah bought land at Brookville where he built their new two-story home, considered one of the most beautiful in the state. On the site were large beech trees, maples for sugar and pines. He also set out an orchard.

Commissioned when he first came to Indiana as a lieutenant colonel in the 7th regiment of the state militia, Noah became a colonel in 1820. That year he was elected sheriff of Franklin County and was re-elected two years later. In 1824 he was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives.

Noah was appointed receiver of public moneys for the Indianapolis land office in 1825. His brother, Lazarus, who had been receiver when the land office was in Brookville, was assigned to the Indianapolis office, but became ill and died on his way there.

There is no information about housing arrangements the Nobles made when they moved to Indianapolis. In 1832 Noah bought a large tract of land east of the town, extending from Washington Street to North Street and from the present Noble Street on the west to Arsenal Avenue on the east.

He had the land cleared and set out an orchard of peach and apple trees and a vineyard. On the place was a grove of sugar maple trees from which syrup was made for family use.

The late Agnes McColloch Hanna, writing in The Indianapolis Star January 5, 1930, described the house Noah built as "the type with which they were familiar in Virginia."

There was a center hall, rooms on either side and extending wings. Ceilings were 12 feet high. The house was a white-painted brick with green shutters. There were eight fireplaces on the first floor. The parlor had two fireplaces, one for the family and one for a dozen Gordon setters which were welcome inside.

The Noble family genealogy describes the glass-bordered entrance door under the square portico and the front of the house which had a width of some 60 feet from wing to wing. A hall separated the living quarters from the kitchen, and an outside gallery led from the kitchen to the dining room.

The first years of marriage had not been without trouble and sorrow for Noah and Kitty. Two sons born to them died. A daughter, Catherine Mary, born in 1822, lived to womanhood, became the wife of Alexander H. Davidson, and this couple had several children. A son, Winston P., born to the Nobles in 1834, grew to manhood and became a real estate agent in Indianapolis.

Kitty Noble is said to have spent much time training her daughter and son in duties and manners, and the children dressed for dinner each evening.

Noble was elected governor as a National Republican-Clay man in 1831 and re-elected in 1834.

While Kitty was First Lady, the Nobles became known for their lavish hospitality, particularly after their new home was finished. She is said to have entertained at long tables set with rare, imported china and silver brought from Virginia. Her gowns of velvet and damask were worn with a set of five matching coral cameos, the gift of her husband.

During Noble's term as governor a state bank was created, an extended internal improvements program got underway and codification of the schools laws was accomplished.

Kitty, no doubt, followed the governor's political career with great interest, and probably was deeply hurt that he never realized his ambition to become a United States senator. He was a candidate for the Senate in 1836 and 1838 but was defeated in both elections.

Oliver H. Smith, his opponent in the 1836 senatorial race, described Noble as "tall and slim, his constitution delicate, his smile winning, his voice feeble, the squeeze of his hand irresistible."

Noble continued in public office, however, serving as a member of the State Board of Internal Improvements from 1839 to 1841 and as a Fund Commissioner, 1841-1842. The commissioners were responsible for the management of the financing of the various internal improvement programs.

Although Noah experienced political setbacks, he was generally highly regarded and his personal popularity did not wane.

The kindnesses of the Nobles were legion. The governor's humanity is seen in his concern for two slaves freed by his father's will — Thomas and Sarah, his wife. Noah brought them to Indianapolis, built a cabin for them on the southwest corner of his farm and provided for them and another of his father's freed slaves in his own will.

It is said that Harriet Beecher Stowe drew her character Uncle Tom from this old Tom who was a very religious man. Mrs. Stowe came to Indianapolis to visit her brother, Henry Ward Beecher, who was minister of the Second Presbyterian Church from 1839 to 1847.

Governor Noble died at his home in Indianapolis February 8, 1844. He was buried in Greenlawn Cemetery; his grave later was transferred to Crown Hill Cemetery.

Henry Ward Beecher said in a memorial service, "I do not believe a man has ever lived in this state, who has left behind so few unadvised, sharp speeches. Kindness was the law of his tongue."

Kitty lived on for 30 years after her husband's death.

Interesting bits of information about the Nobles, both before and after the Governor's death, are recorded in Kate Milner Rabb's "A Hoosier Listening Post" in the Indianapolis Star in 1930.

Mrs. Rabb quoted from letters written by Margaret Eliza Vance Noble Morris (Mrs. Bethuel F. of Indianapolis) to her son, William Hamilton Lazarus Noble, a freshman at Wabash College. Margaret had been married to Lazarus Noble, Noah's brother.

From May 9, 1841, an excerpt: "Your Uncle Noah Noble has not sent your books. I saw your Aunt Kitty at Miss Browning's wedding; she told me there she expected him home in a few days to make a short visit, and then she was going back with him.

June 28, 1841: Your Aunt Kitty went with your Uncle Noah to New York. Have you written to your uncle and thanked him for his kindness to you? I hope you duly appreciated it and attend to his advice. If you have not written to him, do write soon. They left Winston with Catherine and Mr. Davidson."

Mrs. Rabb quoted an excerpt from a letter written by Mrs. Morris in 1844 to her son after Governor Noble's death: "I have not been able to go up to see your Aunt Kitty. She and Catherine called here yesterday afternoon. She is much distressed, says she cannot bear to go into the room where Noah died. She has taken Catherine's room and C has taken the dining room joining it for hers.

May 6, 1844: I believe your Aunt Kitty has given up going to the river (the Ohio) at present."

The Nobles' daughter, Catherine Mary Davidson, died in 1851, leaving several children.

Kitty died at 73 on July 12, 1874. Funeral services were at the residence of her grandchildren built by the Nobles' son, Winston, on his father's land east of Indianapolis. In 1874 it was known as the Davidson Homestead, the residence of the children of Catherine Mary Noble and Alexander Davidson.

"A very large cortege attended the funeral," said the Indianapolis Journal. "Governor Hendricks was present. Rev. E.A. Bradley of Christ (Episcopal) Church, officiated.

Mrs. Noble was buried in Crown Hill Cemetery.

The late Rev. Thomas R. White of Pendleton, husband of Catherine Valette Miller White, a great-granddaughter of the Nobles who died in 1945, was designated "keeper" of many beautiful pieces of furniture which belonged to the Nobles. At White's death, the Noble will provided that the furniture and portraits were to be given to the Andrew Wylie Home at Indiana University, Bloomington. The Wylie Home was built in 1835 about the time the furniture was used by the Nobles.

Timothy J. Sehr, Indiana University Archives associate, located the following furnishings which once belonged to Governor and Mrs. Noble. They are now displayed in Wylie House, Bloomington, Indiana.

Sette with original black horsehair cover.

Plume crotch table, supposed to have held the wedding cake of Governor and Mrs. Noble's daughter, Catherine Mary.

Miniature chest of drawers that belonged to Catherine Mary Noble.

Empire mahogany chest of drawers.

Dining table, solid mahogany with mahogany veneer.

Joan Ritchey Knox of Richmond is among Indiana residents who is a descendant of the Noble family. Her great, great grandfather was George Thomas Noble, a brother of Governor Noah Noble. Joan's father was Noble Brown Ritchey, grandson of Sarah Elizabeth Noble, first child of Thomas and Louisa Canby Noble, who married Lawrence Pitt Ritchey.

Another Noble descendant is Marcia Corrigan O'Neal, Joan Knox's fourth cousin, a "double Noble." Her great, greats were Thomas George Noble and Lavinia Noble. Thomas George was the 11th child of Lavinia the 14th child of Dr. Thomas and Elizabeth Claire Sedwick Noble.

Zerelda Sanders Wallace

(1837 - 1840)

"Artists painted portraits of Indiana governors, but biographers probably wrote more about my great-grandmother than about many Indiana governors," said Zerelda Metzger.

Mrs. Metzger, namesake of Zerelda Sanders Wallace, Indiana's sixth First Lady, paid tribute to her great-grandmother during an interview in her Northside Indianapolis home. A large oil-on-canvas portrait of Governor David Wallace by Jacob Cox hangs in Mrs. Metzger's parlor near a Steinway piano.

"After great-grandfather Wallace sat for his portrait which is now in the Governors' Portrait Collection, our family — perhaps at my great-grandmother's request — arranged for another sitting," Mrs. Metzger said.

"My great-grandmother was the doer — the mover, the shaker — from girlhood through her 84th birthday. She was high-spirited and wanted to be where the action was," her great-granddaughter continued. "I suppose today she might have been called a leader of the woman's movement, but she never heard of such a thing. She just moved quickly wherever she thought she could have positive action. Our family history tells about her."

Zerelda Sanders was born August 6, 1817, in Bourbon County, Kentucky, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John H. Sanders. One of her grandmothers was Elizabeth Boone, sister of Daniel Boone, and her mother was a member of the Singleton family of Virginia.

She was the eldest of five sisters, all beautiful, intelligent and known for individuality. Each of them had colorful lives. One married Dr. Richard Gatling, inventor of the Gatling gun. Mrs. Metzger's scrapbooks record bits and pieces of life in the Sanders family.

Dr. Sanders was an eminent physician who encouraged the inquiring minds of his daughters. Zerelda needed little encouragement. While she was very young, she became so interested in her father's work that she often rode on horseback behind him when he called on his patients. She even helped to care for them.

Her mother was wary, but her father was proud when she read his books and entered into professional discussion with his learned friends. Zerelda had taught herself to read by printing each letter of the alphabet on a shingle; and when she was 11 years old, she went to a boarding school at Versailles, Kentucky.

At home her mother was a strict disciplinarian, and she made every effort to encourage Zerelda to be a Southern lady. She taught her charm, graciousness and the art of entertaining in a beautiful manner. But the girl with the compelling face and curly black hair found little challenge in making samplers and cucumber lotion. Zerelda believed rose petals belonged on the bushes to which they gave beauty, not in sachets.

As a teen-ager, she fitted a description written of her in later year: "She wages a peaceful battle with the eloquence of a Phillips, the resoluteness of a Sherman and the solidarity of a Sumner."

The Sanders family moved to Indianapolis in 1830.

Zerelda was just 19 years old when she became the bride of David Wallace, lieutenant governor of Indiana, a widower, 18 years older than she, and the father of three sons. A short time later she became the sixth First Lady of Indiana.

Zerelda shocked her parents and sisters — a family of academics with home emphasis on customs, manners and the family group — when she announced her intention of marrying David Wallace.

A native of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, Wallace was born on April 4, 1799. He was the son of Andrew and Eleanor (or Ellen) Jones Wallace. His mother was a niece of the Revolutionary War naval hero, John Paul Jones.

In 1807 the Wallace family, including a daughter and three sons, moved to Miami County, Ohio. In 1817 David enrolled in West Point and graduated in 1821 with the rank of second lieutenant. Meanwhile, the Wallaces had moved to Brookville, Indiana, and David joined them there. He studied law and after about a year was admitted to the bar. He was elected lieutenant of the seventh Indiana Militia regiment and by 1827 had advanced to the rank of colonel.

In 1824 David Wallace married Esther French Test, daughter of John Test, a prominent lawyer. Wallace joined his father-in-law's law firm in Brookville. Four sons were born to the Wallaces, three of whom lived — William (born 1825), Lewis or Lew (born 1827), and Edward (born 1831).

In 1828, 1829 and 1830, Wallace was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives. In 1831 and 1834 he was elected lieutenant governor. In 1832 the Wallaces moved from Brookville to Covington, the seat of Fountain County. Here David continued to practice law.

Then there was family tragedy. Esther Wallace contracted consumption and died July 14, 1834. The three boys were placed in the home of Mrs. John Hawkins.

There is a family story that when David and Zerelda came to Crawfordsville after their wedding, William, the eldest of David's sons, told his brothers, Lew and Edward, to "get washed up and put on clean clothes. Father is bringing us a new mother." Lew did not like the idea of a new mother.

In Lew Wallace's Autiobiography he wrote... "she won my brothers instantly. She gave me every attention, but I was sulky and stubborn, and, refusing every overture, resumed intimacy with the woods and the creek. The poor woman dead in her youth and lying in her lonely grave at Covington crept back in my thoughts. The others might forget her, but I would not. She was my mother, and I would have no other. I would die sooner. But the stranger... seemed oblivious of my obstinacy. She bided the time when I would need her... One evening I returned from two days of truancy nearly dead of croup. She put me to bed, and nursed me with infinite skill and tenderness. I had sense to know that she was the saviour of my life, and called her mother, and in speech and fact mother she has been to me ever since."

The boy and his new mother became devoted to one another.

Years later he chose her as the model for the mother in "Ben Hur."

The famous author attributed much of his success to her wise counsel, loving care and strong will.

David and Zerelda had six children, three of whom survived. They were Mary (born 1837), who married Wiliam W. Leathers (grandparents of Mrs. Metzger); Agnes (born 1849), who married J.H. Steiner, and David, Jr. (born 1852), who married Zelda Sguin.

David Wallace was elected governor of Indiana on August 7, 1837, and was inaugurated on December 6, 1837. While he was serving as lieutenant governor Wallace had stayed at the Mansion House Hotel when he was in Indianapolis.

As governor he was allowed $500 for house rent, and during the first part of his administration the family lived in a house at the corner of Washington and Missouri streets. In March, 1839, the state purchased Zerelda's old home, the Dr. John Sanders house, on the northeast corner of Illinois and Market Streets, to serve as a Governor's Mansion. The purchase price of the house and three lots was $9,000.

Zerelda entertained in the Governor's Mansion with natural ease and graciousness. But she did not take the role of a leader in social circles.

She kept informed about her husband's work as governor and often discussed state problems with him. A friend recalled that together Zerelda and David "enjoyed every new book, every speech or sermon, and every newspaper that came in the way." Everything the governor wrote was submitted to her for criticism or approval. As her stepsons became older, she read law with them, and she became well educated in jurisprudence.

Wallace's administration was faced with economic disaster as a result of the collapse of the internal improvements program. Wallace realized that these financial problems weakened his chances for re-election, and he stepped aside. Samuel Bigger was nominated for governor by the Whigs, and he won the election.

The Wallaces moved to a home on the corner of New Jersey and Massachusetts Streets, and he resumed his law practice.

Wallace was elected as a representative in Congress in May, 1841, but was unsuccessful in his bid for re-election in 1843. He was Whig state chairman in 1846, a member of the constitutional convention in 1850 and served as judge of the Marion County court of common pleas from 1856 until his death on September 4, 1859.

Zerelda was left with a house, children to support and educate, but no income. She was forced to take in boarders for awhile, but her property increased in value and her business ventures were successful.

Zerelda became intensely interested in the Women's Christian Temperance Union when a group called the Crusaders banded together in Hillsboro, Ohio, and went into saloons to view "the havoc being created by the sale of liquor." She was present in Cleveland for the organization of the National WCTU.

Many stories about her work in the WCTU are recorded in Zerelda Wallace's scrapbook which Mrs. Metzger has kept just as her great-grandmother left it — filled with clippings.

Indiana was the first state to have a permanent WCTU organization, and Zerelda Wallace was elected president in 1874 in the First Baptist Church in Indianapolis. In the scrapbook is a copy of "Our Herald," a national suffrage newspaper, dated 1882, in which two pages are devoted to the story of Mrs. Wallace. Her photo is centered on another page.

She "was recognized everywhere as the foremost woman speaker of the state," according to Jacob P. Dunn, Indiana and Indianians, Vol. 2. "She was logical and convincing. One of her addresses was long remembered. It was on The Moral Responsibility of the Liquor Seller, and she based it on Exodus XXI, 28-9: "If an ox gore a man or a woman, that they die; then the ox shall be surely stoned, and his flesh shall not be eaten; but the owner of the ox shall be quit. But if the ox were wont to push with his horn in time past, and it hath been testified to his owner, and he hath not kept him in, but that he hath killed a man or woman; the ox shall be stoned, and the owner also shall be put to death."

In 1875 she headed a body of 100 women who went to the legislature to urge against the repeal of the Baxter (local option) law, and she addressed the legislators, many of whom showed an open contempt for her speech while it was being delivered. At its close, a senator from Marion County arose and said that the legislative voting was not a matter of individual conviction, but of representing constituents, and his constituents wanted the law repealed. The thought flashed into Mrs. Wallace's mind, why was not she one of the constituents whose desires were considered; and as she left she thanked him, and told him he had made her a woman suffragist. Thereafter she was an active advocate of woman suffrage as well as temperance.

A temperance memorial which she read before the Indiana legislature in 1875 was ignored despite the fact that it had the signatures of 10,000 women.

"Madam, your plea might as well have been signed by 10,000 mice," she was told.

She decided that women should have the right to vote. She served as president of the Equal Suffrage Society of Indianapolis, was a founder of the Indiana Woman Suffrage Association and was vice-president of the National Woman Suffrage Association.

She traveled throughout the United States and became known as one of the most forceful speakers in the cause of temperance and woman suffrage.

Her rugged features were symbolic of strength of purpose. Her language was described as fervant, her delivery impressive. One of her last major appearances was in Washington, D.C., in 1883, when she spoke on "The Moral Power of the Ballot" before the International Council of Women.

She continued public speaking until she reached the age of 75.

The story of her work is recorded in "Women in Indiana," published in 1941 by the Indiana Women's Biography Association, and in many other publications.

She died March 19, 1901, age 84, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. John H. Steiner at Cataract, Owen County, where she had been living three years. She was buried beside her husband in Crown Hill.

In 1980 she was elected a posthumous member of the Indiana Academy.

Ellen Williamson Bigger
(1840 - 1843)

Little is known of Ellen Williamson Bigger, wife of Indiana's seventh governor, Samuel Bigger. But one thing is certain. She was a Presbyterian, and her interest in the church may have influenced her husband to take an active part in the choir.

Ellen (sometimes known as Edith) was born in Kentucky in 1797, but there is no record of her maiden name. When she and Samuel Bigger were married on May 20, 1830, in Liberty, Indiana, she was Ellen Williamson, widow of a Joseph Williamson.

Records of the Liberty, Indiana, Presbyterian Church show that Ellen Williamson was a founding member of the church. The record, dated Jan. 21, 1829, states: "In accordance with a public notice previously given, a meeting was held at the house of Vincit Mitchell, for the purpose of organizing a Presbyterian Church. The meeting was opened with singing and prayer . . ."

The minutes list Joseph Byram, Abigail Byram — his wife; William F. Ferguson, Saloma Ferguson — his wife; Ellen Williamson; Eliza Ann McChord and Margaret Mitchell as "presenting certificates." Three others who had been members but did not have certificates were examined and their examinations sustained, and another became a member "on profession of his faith."

In 1831, the Liberty Presbytery register of communicants lists "Ellen Williamson (Mrs. Bigger) granted a certificate to Rushville, Ind."

Bigger was born in Warren County, Ohio, March 20, 1802, and graduated from Ohio University at Athens. He was practicing law in Liberty when he met Ellen.

Soon after their marriage, the Biggers moved to Rushville, and he opened a law office with O.H. Smith and began a public career. The Biggers built a house northeast of the town on a bluff overlooking Flat Rock Valley.

Bigger served in the Indiana House of Representatives from 1833 to 1835 and as a circuit judge from 1835 to 1840.

Samuel was generally popular, an enthusiastic and capable singer and violinist. He directed the choir in the Presbyterian Church in Rushville.

Women Marching For Bigger Campaigns

"It is a grand sight to see him stand out in front of the congregation and in a loud and sonorous voice, lead in congregational singing of the Psalms." — This was Pastor Steward (Rev. D.M. Steward) speaking of Samuel Bigger, who was elected governor of Indiana in 1840." — from the "History of 88 Churches of the Whitewater Valley Presbytery," published in 1976.

Bigger was nominated for governor on the Whig ticket in the spring of 1840. William Henry Harrison was the Whig candidate for President that year. It was the "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too," campaign. Bigger's Democratic opponent was General Tilghman A. Howard, a skillful debater and seasoned politican. Howard resigned his seat in Congress to run for governor.

On several occasions the two debated before bipartisan audiences. During the campaign, Bigger traveled on horseback, except for occasional stagecoach and canalboat rides, more than 700 miles. It is said that he delivered 33 speeches and each speech lasted at least two hours. Many continued for four hours.

Whether Ellen accompanied him on any of his campaign trips is not recorded, but other women took notice of him.

An account of a rally at Bowling Green in Clay County, May 6, 1840, published in the Indianapolis Semi-Weekly Journal, May 20, 1840, reported: "Since no house in the town was suitable to accommodate those who had assembled on this occasion, they marched to the woods within sight of town.

"In the procession which was formed, nearly a hundred ladies marched. . . A flag, hoisted on a pole about 75 feet high on the previous evening, was beautiful."

The Whigs triumphed. Bigger and Harrison were elected. The Indiana vote for Bigger was 62,323; for Howard, 53,908.

It is assumed that the Biggers moved into the Governor's Mansion at the corner of Illinois and Market Streets in Indianapolis following his election. The Biggers had no children.

Bigger's greatest accomplishment while governor was to compile and revise the general statute laws of Indiana, with the help of George H. Dunn. This revision was passed by the 1842 legislature almost without amendments.

As a result of the breakdown of the internal improvements program, Bigger's administration was plagued with the state's debts. He was nominated for re-election in 1843 but was defeated by James Whitcomb.

When Bigger's term ended, the couple moved to Fort Wayne. They lived in a two-story house on East Main Street and later in a small frame house on the lot later occupied by the parsonage of the English Lutheran Church.

Bigger's law partner in Fort Wayne was Joseph K. Edgerton who became a distinguished railroad official, but the former governor had little time to build a law practice.

He died at 45 on September 9, 1846, after a short illness. He was buried in Broadway Cemetery. In 1923 a bronze plaque was placed on a concrete slab over the grave.

Ellen was left with money worries. She was a matron at the Home for the Deaf and Dumb in Fort Wayne and later worked as a matron at the Asylum for the Insane.

Finally she went to Greensburg to be near her earlier home and members of the Bigger family who lived there.

The Greensburg Standard in 1871, July 8, printed a notice: "Mrs Sam Bigger, having procured the services of a No. 1 cutter and fitter is prepared to do dressmaking in first class style and guarantees a fit, and work at the time promised. Between Seitz House and Depot, same side of street."

On November 2, 1871, another item appeared: "Mrs. Bigger and Mrs. Barnett have formed a co-partnership in the Millinery and Dressmaking business. Their shop is at the late stand of Mrs. Bigger" (a relative).

The Greensburg Standard in December of 1871 published a list of wedding gifts received by Ira Grover and Kate Wallingford. The last gift listed was a "pin cushion sent by Ellen Bigger."

Ellen Bigger died in 1879 at Greensburg and supposedly is buried there; although no burial records can be found.

Martha Ann Renick Hurst Whitcomb

(1843 - 1848)

(She was First Lady only 479 days)

James A. Whitcomb, Indiana's eighth governor, and Martha Ann Renick met in Cincinnati when both were young and searching for happiness.

But their lives took different turns:His in the study of law and politics and hers in marriage to Wesley Hurst. They didn't meet again until he was 51 and in his second term as governor, and she was a widow whose three children had died.

He had never completely lost track of Martha. He longed for her companionship; and when he learned that she was single again, he asked her to marry him.

Martha Ann Renick Hurst Whitcomb was the First Lady of Indiana for only 479 days. She and Governor Whitcomb were married on March 24, 1846, at Mulberry Hall, Pickaway County, Ohio. The ceremony was performed by the Rev: David Whitcomb, a Methodist minister and brother of James.

Little is known of Martha's youth and education, but information about her family is recorded in the Pickaway County (Ohio) Historical and Genealogical Library.

Her father, William Renick, came to Ohio from Virginia in 1803 and settled on land entered in Chillicothe records by his brother, George. William Renick was married in Virginia to Margaret O'Banion, by whom he had nine children: Seymour, Joseph, Martha, Margaret, Felix, Hiram, William, Eliza and Ellen.

Mrs. Carson Horion of Circleville, Ohio, a great-niece of Martha Ann Renick Whitcomb, recalled her mother's comment when the Renick family first came from Virginia and built a log cabin. She said they were embarrassed when their wealthy relatives came from Virginia to visit, but the Renicks soon built a new, substantial house.

The Renick family was not without problems, however. Renick cleared 10 acres of land on the river bottom in 1804 and planted it in corn in 1805. Late in the season a great flood occurred, and every hill of his corn and the soil in which it grew was washed away. In the fall he plowed

20 acres of plain land and sowed wheat, fencing it in. In the spring he bought a drove of hogs, moved them to Virginia and sold them at a profit. His wheat turned out well, and from then on he tilled the plain land.

Martha's father died in 1844, and her mother about 1869, according to Franklin and Pickaway County histories.

The marriage of Martha and William Hurst took place in 1835, and a copy of their marriage license is on record in the probate court in Circleville, Ohio.

The Hursts had three children, none of whom lived. Then Hurst died.

Now to the background of James Whitcomb. He was born at Rochester on the White River in the Green Mountain area of Vermont on December 1, 1795. When he was 11, in 1806, his family moved to a farm near Cincinnati.

He graduated from Transylvania University at Lexington, Kentucky, in 1819. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in Fayette County, Kentucky in 1822. Two years later he moved to Bloomington, Indiana. In 1830 and 1833 he was elected to the Indiana Senate, and in 1836 he was appointed commissioner of the General Land Office by President Jackson, a position he held until 1841. He then returned to Indiana and resumed his law practice at Terre Haute.

Whitcomb was elected governor on the Democratic ticket in 1843, defeating the incumbent governor, Samuel Bigger. Three years later he was re-elected. Through his efforts the state debt incurred by the internal improvements program was adjusted and the state's credit restored.

During his administration the Indiana Hospital for the Insane, the Indiana Asylum for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb and the Indiana Institute for the Education of the Blind were established. Whitcomb was accounted a brilliant man by his peers.

Presumably after Governor Whitcomb and Martha married, they came immediately to Indianapolis and lived in the Governor's Mansion.

Ninety-four-year-old Martha Webster, great-granddaughter of the Whitcombs, recalls stories about her great-grandparents. At a nursing home in Clinton in 1982, she reflected on family history.

"They were very much in love," she said. "Although he was busy with matters of state business, life for both of them took on new brightness."

Mrs. William Reed, the first woman attorney in Vermillion County and wife of a former Clinton mayor, visited with Mrs. Webster and talked of days of long ago. Mrs. Reed also collected material about the Whitcomb family from historical records of Vermillion County.

Both the governor and his wife enjoyed working in organizations of the Methodist Episcopal Church of which she was a member. The Whitcombs often took long walks together, and since he seldom was without a book, he often read to Martha while walking.

Their greatest joy came a year after their marriage when their daughter, Martha Ann, was born. But the governor's wife lived only 16 days after the child's birth.

The Indianapolis Indiana State Sentinel on July 21, 1847, reported about Mrs. Whitcomb's funeral. . . "after performance of religious services at the Governor's house the remains of the deceased were accompanied by a funeral train to the eastern boundary of the city, from whence the corpse was to be conveyed to Ohio."

"How brief and happy our sojourn together" were the words James Whitcomb wrote in the family Bible as he recorded the death of his wife.

He placed his baby daughter in the care of his wife's sister, Margaret, wife of Renick R. Seymour of Bainbridge, Ohio.

(Governor Whitcomb would not know that his daughter would grow up and became the 22nd First Lady of Indiana, the wife of Governor Claude Matthews.)

Whitcomb resigned as governor in December, 1848, upon his election to the United States Senate, where he served until his death on October 4, 1852.

In his will he designated his brother-in-law, Renick R. Seymour, guardian of his daughter, and his daughter was designated as the residuary legatee of his estate.

He left his library to DePauw University.

Sarah Alexander Dunning

(1848 - 1849)

Near the Memorial Union and Ballantine Hall on the campus of Indiana University, Bloomington, is a family cemetery known as "God's Little Acre."

A picturesque, non-denominational chapel is nearby, and weddings often are solemnized there.

Buried in this little "acre" — known as the Dunn Cemetery — are some of the James Brewster descendants, ancestors of Sarah Alexander Dunning, wife of Indiana's ninth governor, Paris Dunning.

Because little is known about Sarah Dunning, First Lady of Indiana from December 26, 1848, to December 5, 1849, her great-grandson, Donald Hoover persuaded his mother to tell stories about their ancestors, the Brewster sisters.

Mary Gilbert (Mrs. Richard), of Carmel, Indiana, Hoover's sister, said: "I guess Donald knew better than I what questions to ask — even as a boy. Then later he was a reporter so long. (on the Indianapolis Times and the Indianapolis News, and president of Bozell & Jacobs, Inc., New York.)

"Mother thought some of the adventuresome spirit of the Brewster sisters was inherited by Sarah Dunning, and one story, in particular, was a favorite of our family."

James Brewster, great-great grandfather of Sarah Dunning, was born in County Derry, Ireland, in 1720, and at 18 came to Rockingham County, Virginia. He married Elinor Wiliamson, and their eight children were: Margaret, Elinor, Sarah, Janet (or Janette), Agnes, Mary, James and Henry. Some did not live to maturity.

Their land was near an old stone church at Fort Defiance, Virginia; and when there were Indian uprisings in the Shenadoah Valley, families took refuge at the church. Once when the Brewsters hid in the church, they needed supplies from home.

Despite danger in the woods, two Brewster girls volunteered to ride horseback with two soldiers who were going by their home. The family needed a churn and some potatoes which the girls planned to dig.

The girls — one record named Agnes and Janet — did their work and while waiting for the soliders to return, took a nap in their own bed. Indians looked in the house, saw the girls asleep and hid in the bushes waiting for darkness.

The soliders returned, loaded the girls, a bag of potatoes and the old-fashioned churn on their horses and returned safely to the fort. Later the Indians were captured, and they confessed they were afraid to fight the soldiers because they had fire sticks (muskets).

Other stories are recorded in "Maxwell History and Genealogy," and family movements to Kentucky and Indiana are listed.

Sarah Dunning was born June 1, 1810, the daughter of James and Sarah Mershon Alexander (granddaughter of the James Brewsters). Her father was born in Fayette County, Virginia, in 1788, and her mother in Culpepper County, Virginia, in 1785.

The Alexanders migrated west and settled on a farm near Bloomington, Indiana. Sarah's father died November 12, 1852, and her mother, February 17, 1864. Both are buried in the Dunn Cemetery on the Indiana University campus. Headstones provide records.

Paris C. Dunning was born near Greensboro, North Carolina, on March 15, 1806. He attended the academy at Greensboro, studied medicine in Kentucky, and finally studied law under James Whitcomb after coming to Bloomington in 1823.

It was in Bloomington that Dunning met Sarah Alexander, and they were married on July 6, 1826, soon after her 16th birthday. The same year he was admitted to the bar.

There is no picture of Sarah, but she has been described as a pretty, brown-eyed girl. She was to serve as the wife of a politican for 30 years.

Dunning was a member of the Indiana House of Representatives from 1833 to 1836 and in the Indiana Senate from 1836 to 1840. In 1844 he was chosen presidential elector.

Dunning was elected lieutenant governor in 1846 on the Democratic ticket, and he became governor in December, 1848, when James Whitcomb was elected to the United States Senate.

Site of the Dunning housing is not recorded, but it is assumed that they lived in Indianapolis at least part of the time when Paris was in the legislature and when he served as lieutenant governor.

Sarah may have served as official hostess for Governor Whitcomb during his second term before his marriage to Martha Ann Renick. No doubt the Dunnings were included in social affairs of state when Governor and Mrs. Whitcomb entertained.

A little over a year later when Martha Ann Whitcomb died, Sarah may again have assisted as official state hostess.

When Paris succeeded to the governorship, presumably they moved to the Governor's Mansion.

In 1863 Dunning again was elected to the state senate and was chosen to be president of that body. He then returned to Bloomington and his law practice, where he achieved success as a criminal lawyer.

Dunning was the only person in Indiana history who held all the offices of governor, lieutenant governor, state senator, president pro tempore of the state senate and state representative.

The Dunnings were the parents of five children: Martha E., Mary C., Rachel J., Paris C., and James A. Much of Sarah's time, no doubt, was devoted to care of the children.

She died May 19, 1863, and was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Bloomington.

Paris Dunning married Ellen Lane Ashford (Mrs. Allen D.) on September 27, 1865. He died in Bloomington May 9, 1884, and, as he had requested, was buried beside his first wife in Rose Hill Cemetery.

The grandmother of Mrs. Richard Gilbert and the late Donald Hoover was Martha Elizabeth Dunning, who married Lewis C. Stinston January 27, 1852. She might have been named Martha in honor of Martha Ann Renick Whitcomb, since she and Governor Whitcomb had befriended the Dunnings from the days of their early marriage.

Martha and Lewis Stinson also named their daughter Martha. She married Samuel C. Hoover, and they were the parents of Donald, Raymond and Samuel Hoover and Mary Hoover Gilbert.

Louisa Cook Wright, Harriett Burbridge Wright

(1848 - 1857)

(Both died while Governor in office)

During his lifetime, Joseph A. Wright, Indiana's tenth governor, worked in jobs ranging from janitor at Indiana University to ambassador to Berlin.

But the stories of the two women who served as the First Ladies during his administration are marked by sadness and tragedy.

Without the encouragement of Louisa Cook Wright the governor might never have sought public office.

The daughter of William and Nancy Cook, Louisa was born October 25, 1809. William Cook was a prosperous Parke County farmer, and Louisa enjoyed a comfortable girlhood. She became a devout Methodist who participated in many church activities including revival meetings. She often added verbal, "Yes, Lord!" and "Amen" during the meetings. Her parents expressed pride in the thoughtfulness of their daughter in encouraging others to become interested in religion.

She has been described as "opinionated and intelligent and accustomed to having her own way, wearing a 'cloak of plenty and ruling the roost' with a gentle hand of steel."

Joseph Albert Wright was born April 17, 1810, in Washington, Pennsylvania, the son of John and Rachel Seaman Wright, who were Quakers. He attended common school there.

The family then moved to Bloomington, Indiana, where the young man helped in his father's brickyard. But he was determined to get a higher education.

"On the first day of May, 1824, the seminary doors were opened for the reception of students, and ten boys were admitted. These, the first to drink at the fountain of learning opened by the county, were...and Joseph A. Wright."

The quote is from the "History of Indiana University," by T.A. Wylie published in 1890. Much more information about the tenth governor is in a genealogy of "Descendants of William Seaman," compiled by Irene M.S. Shreve and William Seaman. Wright's mother, Rachel, was

Marker at Grave of Louisa Wright, wife of Governor Joseph A. Wright at Montezuma, Indiana

the sister of Mary Seaman Hunt, great, great grandmother of Irene Shreve of Lafayette, Indiana.

"He paid his way through the state university, then a small seminary, by ringing the college bell, gathering nuts to sell (which earned him the nickname of 'Walnut Huller'), working as a janitor, a job in his father's brickyard and working with John Wright on the first seminary brick building," according to the genealogy in which 70 pages are devoted to the Wright family.

Joseph read law with Craven P. Hester of Bloomington and was admitted to the bar in 1829 when he was not yet 20 years old. Soon after that he moved to Rockville, Indiana, and opened a law office.

"Wright was far from prepossessing in appearance," said a historical story in The Marion County Mail, April 22, 1965. "In all his pictures, he wore a grave and worried look. Tall and raw boned, he had a large head and an unusually high forehead. His nose and mouth were large and prominent. His hair was light and thin.

"One girl, however, could see something in this crude student. She was Louisa Cook . . ."

When Joseph met Louisa, he accepted invitations to speak at public meetings, but his gestures often were mistaken as amusing, and his messages had little impact on audiences.

The couple married on November 31, 1831. At his wife's urging Joseph became a Methodist. She saw a spark of greatness in her husband and encouraged him to polish his speeches.

The Wrights adopted Nancy Bryant, daughter of a friend, Judge William Bryant, in 1832, when she was only a few months old. Their own son, John Cook Wright, was born later that year, on October 17.

Wright served in the Indiana House of Representatives from 1833 to 1838, in the Indiana Senate from 1839 to 1842, and as a Democratic representative in Congress from 1843 to 1845.

Louisa remained in their Rockville home, suffering from ague, when Joseph went to Washington. She wrote many letters to her husband telling about her illness and the discomfort of chills, fever and sweating which she suffered.

Nancy, (then called Nannie) was sent West to stay with relatives, and John stayed with his aunt, Hannah Wright Benton, in Iowa.

Joseph Wright was elected governor of Indiana on the Democratic ticket in 1849. He was re-elected in 1852 under the state's new constitution for a term of four years, serving in all from 1849 to 1857. His administration was highlighted by the adoption of the new state constitution and by the formation of a State Board of Education and a State Board of Agriculture. The first State Fair was in 1852.

When Wright moved into the Governor's Mansion at Illinois and Market Streets, Louisa was unable to be there all the time. John came to Indianapolis, and Wright's sister, Hannah, served as official hostess. She also went back and forth to Rockville to care for Louisa when the First Lady was there.

Louisa died in Indianapolis on Friday, May 21, 1852. The Indianapolis Sentinel of May 24, 1852, reporting on her death, told of her ten years of suffering which "were borne with Christian resignation and cheerfulness..."

She was president of the Widows and Orphans Society of Indianapolis at the time of her death.

A memorial service was on Sunday at Roberts Chapel in Indianapolis, and the funeral was on Monday at noon in the Governor's Mansion.

The Sentinel told of the formation of the procession which accompanied the corpse to the Terre Haute depot. In the procession, in this order, were: Clergy, pall bearers, hearse, relatives, officers of state and citizens.

She was buried in the Old Cemetery at Montezuma in Parke County.

As a record for this book, Fern Brown of the Montezuma Public Library, went to the cemetery and took pictures of the inscription on the tombstone which reads: "Louisa Wright — wife of Joseph A. Wright, daughter of William and Nancy Cook — died May 21, 1852."

"In the same row in the cemetery her parents are buried," Mrs. Brown said in a letter in which she enclosed the photos.

After Louisa's death, Governor Wright's sister, Hannah Benton, continued as hostess at the Governor's Mansion. John Wright, the governor's son, recalled many years later than the mansion "was the social rendezvous of the city. Receptions, or levees, were given every week, and they were largely attended by people belonging to both political parties. Visitors came from all over the United States, and some from foreign lands made the mansion a stopping place on their tours of the country.

"Queen Victoria's ladies in waiting visited the Mansion, and state luncheons and dinners were catered by Joseph Parisette."

Another description of the Governor's hospitality appeared in the Indiana Historical Society's 1951 review of the "John Candler Letters from America 1853-54" when the English Quaker wrote:

"Our last evening's visit to Govr. Wright was a memorable one. We supped at 6 o'clock and among the good provisions was a dish of fricasied chicken served with cranberry sauce — excellent. The Gov. stood at one end of the table, his sister at the other, and in the absence of servants and of all ceremony, politely waited on their Quaker guests, till all being supplied, they sat down themselves and partook of the banquet . . .

"Peaches and pears, preserved cranberries, and many sorts of bread and cake were bountifully supplied. After our evening meal was dispatched, we withdrew to the drawing room; an hour's animated conversation followed, and then a time of religious retirement, in which William Forester addressed the Gov. who is a widower, and has lately lost his wife. . . expressing a desire that all his sorrows might be sanctified to him, and that a blessing might attend him and his sister and son through time. . . good has flowed from the visit."

The lonely governor, however, smoked one cigar after another following the death of his wife.

During February, 1854, Joseph Wright while visiting in Kentucky, met Harriet Burbridge and was attracted to her because of her pleasant, positive manner. Born in 1813, she was the daughter of Robert and Eliza Ann Barnes Burbridge. She was descended from Thomas and Sallie Sharp Burbridge who had come from England to Spotsylvania County, Virginia, during Colonial days.

In August, 1854, Wright returned to Kentucky, and he and Harriet were married on the 14th or 15th of that month. They returned to the Governor's Mansion. Parties were scheduled, and they were the center of social life in Indianapolis.

The next year Wright learned that he was to be a father again. Harriet returned to her family home near Hutchinson, Kentucky, where, on October 10, 1855, she gave birth to twins — a daughter named Harriet and a son, Joseph A., Jr. But before George Wright could leave his duties in Indianapolis and go to Kentucky, he received word that Harriet had died.

For the second time in three years he was a widower. He went to Kentucky, arranged for Harriet's funeral and burial and asked her brother, Oscar Burbridge, to get someone to care for the twins until plans could be made for them in Indianapolis.

Again, his sister, Hannah Benton, came to the rescue, and she and his daughter, Nancy, cared for the children. Later Hannah took them for awhile to her home in Iowa.

When Wright's term as governor ended, President James Buchanan named him United States minister to Berlin, the capital of what was then Prussia. He served there from 1857 to 1861.

A firm supporter of the Union in the Civil War, although a Democrat, Wright was appointed United States senator by Governor Oliver Perry Morton to fill the vacancy caused by the expulsion of Senator Jesse D. Bright. Wright served from February, 1862, until January, 1863.

In 1863 President Lincoln appointed Wright as United States commissioner to the Hamburg Exposition. In the same year, he was married for the third time, in New York City, to Caroline Rockwell Davis. She has been described as "a remarkable woman whose influence for culture was felt here and aboard."

Joseph Wright died in Prussia on March 11, 1867. With him was his son, John Cook Wright. The former governor was buried in a family plot in Brooklyn, New York.

John Cook Wright married Louisa A. Wiley in 1861, and they had a daughter, Catherine. She married William H. Talbott.

Joseph Albert Wright died at the age of 22. His twin sister, Harriet, married Richard Brinton. She died in 1923.

Caroline Cook Willard
(1857 - 1860)

Ashbel P. Willard, Indiana's 11th governor, risked his political future in an attempt to save the life of his wife's brother. But the governor's effort was in vain.

A silver-tongued orator, Governor Willard at age 36 when he took office January 12, 1857, was and remains the next to youngest chief executive. (Governor James Brown Ray was 30.) Willard probably had ambition for national office.

Then in October, 1859, headlines proclaimed the news that John E. Cook, brother of the governor's wife, Caroline Cook Willard, had been arrested for participating in the attack on the United States arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia. The attack was a plan by abolitionist John Brown and a band of 18 men for instigating slaves to insurrection and establishing a free state in southern Appalachia.

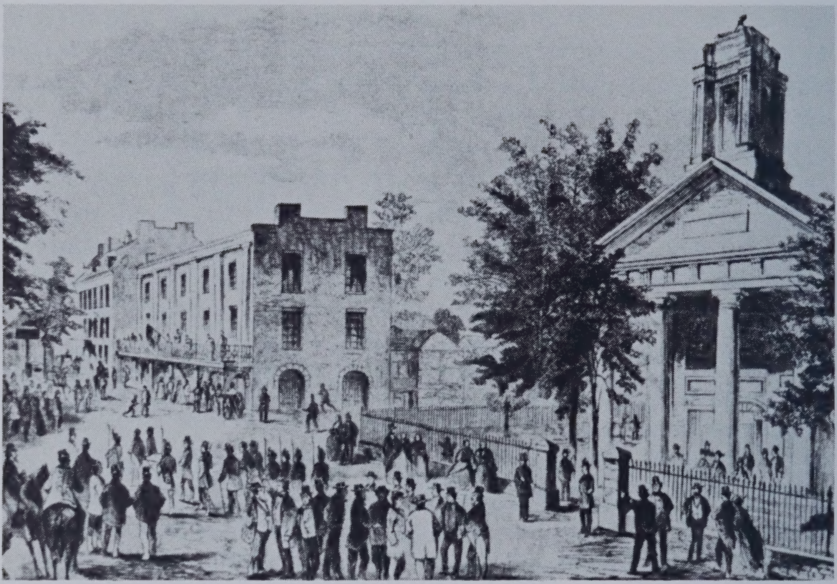
Mrs. Willard had lost touch with her 29-year-old brother, John E. Cook, a law clerk who had attended Yale University. Then she learned that he was the man who helped cut the telegraph lines going in and out of Harpers Ferry, and that he aided in moving the "tools."

The raiders seized the arsenal and held some of the local citizens captive. But after a two-day battle Brown and his surviving followers, including Cook, were taken prisoners and jailed in Charlestown, Virginia (later West Virginia).

Many Hoosiers expected the governor to publicly disapprove of the raid because Willard was a Democrat and anti-abolitionist. To identify himself as a friend of a person connected with the raid would damage his political future. But he was determined to try to rescue his kinsman.

Willard bade goodbye to a tearful Caroline; and, accompanied by Daniel W. Voorhees, young trial lawyer and orator, and Joseph F. McDonald, Indiana's attorney general, he went to Charlestown. They planned to offer legal counsel for Cook.

The story of their meeting with the brother of Indiana's First Lady, the trial and jury's decision are recorded in biographical sketches in the New Albany Public Library and in excerpts from the *Daily New Albany*



Prison, guardhouse and courthouse at Charlestown, Va. — Harper's Ferry tragedy

Democrat, its successor, the *New Albany Daily Ledger* and in Gerald O. Haffner's "The Hoosier Governor, Ashbel P. Willard and His Times."

After one of Willard's visits with Cook, the jailer left a door unlocked for Cook's escape. But Cook did not make a break for freedom because he said if he escaped, the blame would rest on the governor.

Cook was put on trial, and defended by Voorhees in a speech that brought the Indiana orator national fame. Governor Willard testified in behalf of his brother-in-law's character. But despite their efforts Cook was found guilty of murder and inciting insurrection and was sentenced to be hanged.

The young man went to the gallows on December 16, 1859. Willard and Voorhees attended his funeral in Willamsburgh, New York, and the governor returned to Indianapolis to comfort his grief-stricken wife.

The story of Caroline Cook and Ashbel P. Willard began in the early 1840s when he came from New York to teach school near her home at Haddam, Connecticut. No date is recorded for her birth, but he was born October 31, 1820, in Oneida, New York. He attended Hamilton College. She had teacher training, and their friendship led to romance. But finances were a problem, and he decided to migrate west.

After spending a year at Marshall, Michigan, he bought a horse and rode to Texas. Returning north, he taught school one year in Jefferson County, Kentucky, and then studied law. He was admitted to the bar, and in 1845 he opened a law office in New Albany.

Caroline Cook by this time was a teacher at Anderson's Female Seminary which was established at New Albany in 1843. Even though Willard was said to be handsome and charismatic, the following description of his courtship of Miss Cook was recorded, according to "The Hoosier Governor, Ashbel P. Willard and His Times."

"Mr. Willard...was assiduous in his attendance during leisure hours at Anderson's Seminary, and some of the young women who were pursuing the deep sciences and the elegant graces did not fancy his physical peculiarities, his neck being notably longer than that of the average man. Girls will be girls, even with all the classics at their beck and call, and one staid matron now vividly recollects being reprimanded and incarcerated ignonimously for calling down the corridor to another girl as Mr. Willard, on a prancing steed, drew rein at the pavement: 'Look, look: there comes Neck'."

Caroline Cook and Ashbel Willard were married May 31, 1847, at her father's home in Haddam, Connecticut.

The Willards built a sturdy, two-story house in New Albany at what was later 515 East Spring Street. In front of the house and toward the west side of the lot was a small two-room wooden cottage which served as Willard's study and office.

The Willards had three children: James H., born April 1, 1848; Caroline C., born 1855, and Ashbel P., Jr., whose birthdate is not recorded.

Apparently Caroline enjoyed the happiest years of her life when her children were young and she was surrounded by neighbors and friends. New Albany library records describe her as fragile and delicate with large gray eyes, pale blonde hair and an appealing smile.

Willard's oratorical powers were noticed by New Albany residents, including other lawyers and politicans. He formed a partnership with Randall Crawford, an able attorney who had been in practice since the 1820s.

When the Democrats of Floyd County met at Galena April 6, 1850, Willard was nominated for state representative. Between that date and the election in August, he spoke at an Independence Day event, at a Sabbath School program, in the Market House at New Albany and at a citizens meeting, farm gatherings and town meetings.

Willard was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 1850, and in 1852 he was elected lieutenant governor on the Democratic ticket. In 1856 he defeated Oliver Perry Morton in the race for governor.

The first session of the legislature during Willard's term of office was plagued with many problems. Members failed to make appropriation to pay interest on the state's debts, and Willard had to borrow funds.

The governor's dramatic defense of his brother-in-law instead of lessening his popularity in Indiana, increased it among some elements.

"People admired his courage and commended him for what he had done," according to W.W. Woollen, Indiana historian. "Particularly was this true of his political opponents . . ."

Willard had a drinking problem, and his health began to fail. He attended a Democratic convention at Columbus, Indiana, during the summer of 1860, and when he went to the platform to make a plea for party harmony, he suffered a hemorrhage of the lungs.

He and Caroline decided to travel to Minnesota for a restful vacation. But he found no relief, and he died there on October 4, 1860. He was the first governor of Indiana to die in office.

His body was returned under escort to Indianapolis, and funeral services were at the Governor's Mansion. The body lay in state in the Senate Chamber.

Governor Willard was buried in Fairview Cemetery in New Albany. In 1921 the Indiana General Assembly authorized $1,000 to erect a stone monument at his grave. Nothing was done, however, and local citizens proposed a monument. In 1941 a modest marker was placed at his grave site, but even then his first name was misspelled, "Ashable." His birth and death dates, the years he served as governor and information that the monument was elected by the State of Indiana are carved on the stone.

There is little information about Willard's family following his death. It is assumed that Caroline and the children returned to New Albany.

Caroline Willard died there on February 14, 1862. Her funeral was at the New Albany First Presbyterian Church at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18. She had been a member of that church when she lived in New Albany. Before the funeral, the body lay in state at the residence of the M.C. Kerrs.

She was buried at Fairview Cemetery beside her husband. The second son, Ashbel P. Willard, and a brother of Willard are buried near the governor's grave.

Their daughter, Caroline C. Willard, was five years old when her father died, but there are no other records about her.

James Hazelton Willard was 14 years old when his mother died. He attended a preparatory school, Colton's Institute at Middletown, Connecticut. In 1864, he was admitted to Wesleyan University, also at Middletown. In accordance with early wishes of his father, James transferred to Hamilton College, Clinton, New York, during his sophomore year. Next he studied at Columbia College Law School, and then continued the study of law in France. In 1871 he graduated from the School of Law in Vienna. Toward the end of 1871 he entered the practice of law in New Albany. A New Albany city directory listed him as having a law office at 77 Pearl Street.

He married Kate L. Newland at Bedford on December 31, 1877. He served three terms in the Indiana House of Representatives and two in the Indiana Senate. He died in New York City in 1901.

Mary Amsden Hammond
(1860 - 1861)

Abram Adams Hammond was a restless man all his life, moving from city to city and state to state. His wife, Mary Amsden Hammond, who was First Lady only three months, moved with him. But she left no day book, journal or diary.

Lieutenant Governor Hammond succeeded to the governorship October 4, 1860, upon the death of Ashbel P. Willard, and served until January 14, 1861.

Hammond was born at Brattleboro, Vermont, March 21, 1814, and came to Brookville, Indiana, with his parents when he was six years old. He attended common schools there, and when a young man studied law with John Ryman.

He was admitted to the bar in 1835 and began his practice of law in Greenfield.

The date and place of Mary Amsden's birth are not known. Record of a marriage license for Mary Amsdon and Abram Adams Hammond on April 5, 1838 in Greenfield was found by Marcia L. Hunt, Greenfield Public Library.

In 1840 Hammond moved his law practice to Columbus, Indiana, then in 1846 to Indianapolis, and the next year to Cincinnati. In 1849 he returned to Indianapolis where he formed a law partnership with Hugh O'Neal.

In 1852 Hammond went to San Francisco to practice law, but three years later he moved back to Indianapolis. He then served as judge of the court of common pleas for Marion County.

Some observers wondered how he managed to build a law practice since he was "not content to sit in his office and wait for a client."

According to "Biographical and Historical Sketches," "Hammond was not a showy man, but he was an able one. . . he had an analytic and logical mind and was remarkably clear in stating his positions and drawing his conclusions."

In 1856 the Democratic state convention chose John C. Walter as candidate for lieutenant governor, but he was found too young to be eligible. Abram Hammond was selected by the Democratic Central Committee in his place, and he was elected.

The Hammonds had one child, a daughter, Georgie. The date and place of her birth are not known. It is assumed that Mary Hammond and their daughter moved about with Hammond. However, while serving as lieutenant governor from 1857 through 1860 he is listed in Indianapolis directories as boarding at the Bates House, a hotel located on the northwest corner of Illinois and Washington streets. In 1861 and 1862 he is listed as living at the southwest corner of Mississippi (now Senate Avenue) and Washington streets. From 1865 through 1868 he again was listed as boarding at the Bates House.

Whether the Hammonds lived in the Governor's Mansion while he was governor is not known.

On January 11, 1861, Hammond delivered his only message to the Indiana General Assembly. He asked for the creation of a subtreasury to keep the state funds, and for "the establishment of a house of refuge" on land four miles west of Indianapolis. This marked the beginning of plans for the Boys Reform School (later named the Indiana Boys School) at Plainfield, 13 miles west of Indianapolis.

On the issue of slavery, Hammond cautioned Indiana legislators to keep Indiana "where she rightly belongs, as a conservative, law-abiding and Union state."

Soon after his term was over Hammond was severely afflicted with rheumatism and asthma. The family moved to Denver where he died on August 27, 1874.

An obituary in the Indianapolis *Journal* said that he had gone West "in pursuit of some measure of health, as he has gone, within the past 12 years, to nearly every place on the continent that promised relief from the lingering and withering rheumatism which made him so long lamentably an invalid."

His body was returned to Indianapolis, and on the day of the funeral state offices were closed by proclamation of Governor Thomas A. Hendricks. Hammond is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery.

The Denver, Colorado, *Republican*, February 5, 1890, had the following obituary of Mary Hammond:

"HAMMOND: in Denver, February 4, 1890, at the Glenarm Hotel, Mrs. Mary B. Hammond of Indianapolis, Indiana, aged 68 years. Funeral services at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Sweeney, 1425 Cleveland Place, this afternoon at 4 o'clock. Friends of Mrs. Harmmond are invited to attend."

The Hammonds' daughter was married to Anthony Sweeney of Hot Springs and Denver, reportedly a wealthy civic leader. The Denver *Rocky Mountain News*, April 29, 1894, stated in the obituary of Anthony Sweeney that: "In 1876 he was married to a daughter of Ex-Governor

Hammond of Indiana. He took a deep interest in all matters of public and social character and was very successful in private business.''

The Denver *Republican* of the same date said: ''Mr. Sweeney is survived by Mrs. Sweeney, one of the leaders of Denver society. There are no children in the family.''

Georgie Hammond Sweeney later married J.H.P. Voorhies, a Denver businessman.

The Denver *Times* on November 11, 1915, reported the death of J.H.P. Voorhies, mining man and banker. The Times said he was prominent in social circles in the city and owned large mining properties and had acquired vast realty holdings.

In his will, Voorhies left funds to construct a memorial in Denver's Civic Center to his wife, Georgie, and himself.

On May 8, 1902, The Indianapolis *Journal* reported that on the previous day Georgie Voorhies had sold the block at the southeast corner of Washington Street and Senate Avenue for $50,000 cash. This was the site of the home in which the Hammonds had resided in 1861 and 1862.

Georgie Hammond Sweeney Voorhies died in Denver in 1903. There were no children.

The $132,000 memorial arranged by Voorhies as a tribute to him and his wife was completed in 1922.

Joanna Elston Lane

(1861)

(She was First Lady only three days)

"One day I attended a reception at the White House. When it came time for the Indiana delegation to speak, Mr. Lincoln turned to me and said, "Mrs. Lane, I believe. Am I right?"

"My reply was: 'Mr. President, you are always right!'

"The answer seemed to please him very much."

— From "Memories of Mr. Lincoln," by Joanna Lane.

Indiana's 13th First Lady, in her later years, reflected in writing about her rich, full life which began in Crawfordsville, Indiana, and included years of public service with her distinguished husband, Henry S. Lane, and other family members.

Lane, the 13th governor of Indiana, occupied that office only three days, January 14 to 16, 1861. Sworn in as governor on the 14th, he resigned two days later upon his election to the United States Senate. Hence, Joanna Elston Lane was Indiana's First Lady for only three days.

The Lanes and Elstons were Crawfordsville, Indiana, families.

In 1824 when Crawfordsville was a collection of log cabins, Major Isaac Compton Elston, 30, married Marie Eveline Akin, 19, of Terre

Haute and brought her to live in a log cabin.

A native of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, Elston had served as a sergeant in the War of 1812 and as a major in the Black Hawk War. His wife was born at Quaker Hill, Dutchess County, New York.

Elston was a banker with capital to invest. By astuteness and industry he increased his holdings. Within a few years he bought a large acreage, developed a brick yard where bricks were made by hand and burned in kilns and, in 1835, built Elston Homestead.

The large, brick house was 50 feet wide and deep in proportion; and according to Agnes McCulloch Hanna in the Indianapolis Star, January 11, 1931, the same men who worked on the Lanier House in Madison made the inside trimming, the hand-made woodwork and hand-cut door panels.

The house with wrought iron porches was in a scenic area known as Elston Grove.

Joanna, who was born September 28, 1828, was the third of nine Elston children. The other offspring were Sylvia, James, Susan, Laura, Mary, Isaac C., Jr. and Evelynne. The eighth child of the Elstons died when very young.

Each of the little girls had her own narrow, ornate bed, a low chest of drawers for clothes, trinkets, ribbons and handkerchiefs and a little rocking chair. The children had a table low enough for games or simple meals.

A velvet carpet with an Aubusson pattern was laid in the drawing room and parlor. At one time the dining room was furnished with chairs of bird's-eye maple, but there was a set of cherry tables, the center one with two drop leaves, and four end tables with one drop leaf each. These were used when a large number of family and guests were served.

The Elston children led a glorious, romping life in the big, stately house surrounded by acres of woodland for their playground.

The relation of the Elstons to their children was close, and frontier luxury was tempered by piety and a sense of duty.

Mrs. Elston, often called "the Mayor's lady," established a reputation for social propriety. But her principal concern was her family. the Elstons were active in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and they were contributors to the frame church built in 1829 and the Gothic brick structure erected in 1857.

Major Elston was one of the founders of Indiana Asbury University, now DePauw University, and Joanna was with him when the cornerstone was laid June 20, 1837.

Once when Lew Wallace was a student at Wabash College, he was so intrigued with the Elston house that he "invited" himself in, unknown to the Elstons. He wrote of the incident in his autobiography. He wanted to see the wonder of a sofa, "a mahogany sofa, covered with haircloth." He was even more puzzled by reports of a piano. "What is a piano?"

"That awkward country boy, grown to greater promise, returned in later years, was married to beautiful Susan Elston, and, despite Major Elston's vehement misgivings, became rich, famous and entirely at ease in the courts of kings," wrote Polly Seymour in "Montgomery County Remembers."

General Lew Wallace was the author of "Ben Hur."

The sisterly sentiment shared by the Elston girls is revealed in an entry in Joanna's memory album written by her elder sister, Sylvia, in 1845 when Joanna was leaving the family for new home and husband, Henry Lane.

Writing of their room, their joys and happiness, the books they read, Sylvia concluded: "Your gentle heart had discovered a new source of happiness, a new fountain of affection has been unsealed; and as a new object on which to bestow it...But oh, whatever new ties may be formed, let not the silken cord which has so long united us be loosened...Let us cherish the dreams of our childhood, the love of earlier days."

Joanna was moving next door!

The Elston Homestead, now the home of Wabash College presidents, is Crawfordsville's oldest standing residence.

Henry Smith Lane was born in Montgomery County, Kentucky on February 11, 1811, the son of James H. Lane Jr. and Mary Higgins Lane. He was educated by prviate tutors and then studied law.

He married Pamela Bledsoe Jameson December 24, 1833. She died in 1842.

In 1835 Smith settled in Crawfordsville. He served one term, 1837 to 1838, in the Indiana House of Representatives, and one term in Congress, 1840 to 1843.

In September, 1844, he bought a six-acre plat in Crawfordsville on which there was a three-room cottage. Five months later, on February 11, 1845, he married Joanna Elston.

The bride supervised construction and landscaping of six rooms of neoclassical design added to the cottage. The Lanes shopped for furnishings in Cincinnati, New York and Paris.

In 1846 when the First Indiana Regiment of Volunteers for Mexico received its colors from the Ladies of Montgomery County on the front steps of the house, Joanna Lane presented the flag and made a speech.

Lane was active in the formation of the Republican party; and at the first National Republican Convention, in Philadelphia in 1856, Lane was elected permanent national chairman.

In 1860, at the Republican Convention in Chicago, Lane, then a candidate for governor of Indiana, held the Indiana delegation firmly for Abraham Lincoln's nomination for President.

The Indiana Republican Convention in 1860 nominated Lane for governor and Oliver P. Morton for lieutenant governor, and they were elected by a large majority over their Democratic opponents. Lane was inaugurated at Indianapolis January 14, 1861.

Joanna's inaugural gown of velvet was distinctively designed with fringed shawl-sleeves, fitted basque and full skirt.

"The parlors of Bates House (Indianapolis) were thrown open last p.m. for Governor and Mrs. Lane. They received their numerous friends. . . without distinction of party and the affability of the Governor and his amiable lady set everyone at ease. . . The sunshine of sociability shone within the Republican court." — Crawfordsville Review, January 19, 1861.

Joanna accompanied her husband to Washington and remained there during the entire time he was in the Senate — from 1861 to 1867. The senator was a strong ally of President Lincoln's administrative policies and served on the Military Affairs Committee and was chairman of the Pensions Committee.

Both Joanna and her husband were close personal friends of Lincoln. She gave much of her time to the wounded and dying in hospitals. Her Crawfordsville friend, Mary Hannah Krout, a journalist, said of Joanna: "She distinguished herself as one of the most gracious and charming hostesses in Washington. She gathered about her men of every rank, in politics, from the army and navy, the diplomatic corps and their wives. She was not only a brilliantly intellectual woman, but one whose character and kindliness made friends with those who met her — made them and kept them."

Senator Lane was chosen to be President Lincoln's second Inauguration Committee Chairman, March 4, 1865. He was honorary pallbearer at Lincoln's funeral in Springfield, April, 1865.

During the strain of war-time legislation, Senator Lane's health failed, and he announced that he would not be a candidate for re-election.

The couple returned to Lane Place in Crawfordsville in 1867 where they led a fairly quiet life. He served as a trustee of DePauw University and a member of the Indiana Historical Society. He died June 17, 1881.

Joanna continued to live at Lane Place. Because of her charming hospitality, her shrewdness in political and financial matters and her genuine pleasure in discussion, Lane Place continued to be a meeting place for statesmen and those who were active and prominent in the life of the state.

Joanna Elston Lane wrote and edited the first — and last, to date — women's edition of the Crawfordsville Journal on November 26, 1896. It was called a special "consideration for the ladies." It sold for five cents a copy, and the Methodist Episcopal church women got the proceeds.

Joanna also founded the church's first Foreign Missionary Society and served in 1871 as its first president.

Joanna Elston Lane died at Lane Place on April 6, 1914. She was buried beside her husband in Oak Hill Cemetery.

Lane Place was bequeathed to Miss Helen Elston Smith, niece of Mrs. Lane. Miss Smith maintained Lane Place until 1931 when she deeded it to the Montgomery County Historical Society in order to perpetuate the Lanes' role in 19th century society.

The city of Crawfordsville maintains the grounds and outside of the building. The Historical Society owns the contents and operates it as a museum.

Because of deterioration of the home, inside and out, the Historical Society in 1984 set a goal of $40,000 to $50,000 needed for repairs and restoration.

The home contains furnishings of the Lanes and other families.

A copy of Joanna Lane's "Memories of Lincoln" is in the museum. Mrs. Lane wrote these recollections (or dictated them to her niece, Helen Elston Smith) between 1887 and 1914. A quotation from the "Memories" is in a brochure which provides information about Lane Place.

One of Joanna Elston Lane's wedding gifts was a set of robin-egg blue banded Haviland china from her grandmother, Sylvia Morgan Aikin. This set is still at Lane Place with nine cups and saucers, teapot, creamer and sugar, about 10 dessert-size plates and one dinner size plate.

"Mrs. Aikin brought the china with her to Vincennes in 1814 along with a linen press, a candlestick of leaded glass, a brass bed-warmer and a pre-Revolutionary side chair with eagle painted on top," said Martha Cantrell, curator of Lane Place. "We have all these things."

Water color paintings done by Joanna Elston about 1841 at Science Hall, Shelbyville, Kentucky, have been acquired by Lane Place.

"They are about 11 by 8 inches, and she used her favorite shades of blues and copperish oranges — and or course greens," Mrs. Cantrell said. "The subject is flowers — Joanna's life-long hobby. Both have her signature below.

"The Art League is transposing these two designs for six Queen Anne side chairs, making petit point slip seats for them. The color and design of the tiny flower band with Mrs. Lane's Limoges china also is to be incorporated. The chairs will be used in the dining room,'' Mrs. Cantrell explained.

Lane Place is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Lucinda Burbank Morton

(1861 - 1867)

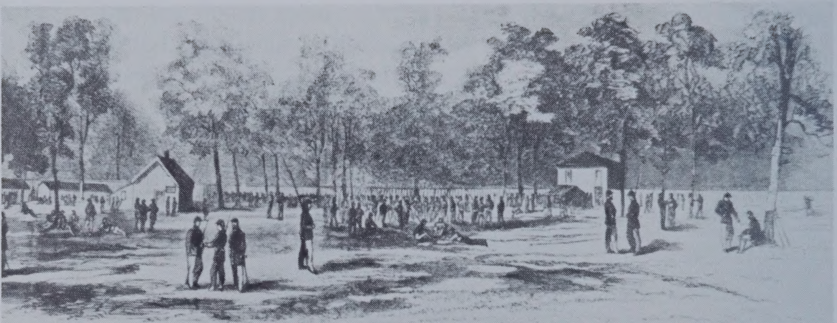
As a child, Lucinda Burbank may have heard stories about soldiers with whom her grandfather, Eleazer Burbank, fought during the Revolutionary War. But her carefree childhood in Centerville, Indiana, was much different from the time she spent as the wife of Oliver Perry Morton, Indiana governor during the Civil War.

The story of Lucinda is recorded by Inezetta Stiver, Centerville historian, and by Theodore Santarelli de Brasch, South Hamilton, Massachusetts, great-grandson of Indiana's 14th First Lady.

Eleazer Burbank was a New Hampshire native who moved to a farm near Bethel, Windsor County, Vermont, where he lived until his death. His wife was Rachel Payne.

Their son, Isaac, who was born in 1788, became a school teacher at 18. He moved to Emmettsburg, Frederick County, Maryland, where he continued teaching. He married Mary B. Troxell, born in 1799 of German lineage.

They were the parents of Lucinda Burbank, who was born in 1825, the year the family moved to Centerville. Lucinda had three sisters — Rachel, Eliza and Sarah — and three brothers — J.E., John A. and Joseph H.



Camp Morton, near Indianapolis, September 1862. *Harper's Weekly*, September 13, 1862.

Camp Morton (near Indianapolis) 1862.

Isaac worked in merchandising for 40 years in a location on the south side of Main Street, a short distance east of Main Cross, now known as Morton Avenue.

On trips to Cincinnati to buy wares, he often stayed overnight with the grandparents of Oliver P. Morton. Isaac sometimes left books for young Oliver to read.

Oliver was born August 4, 1823, in Salisbury, Indiana (Wayne County). His father was James Throck Morton, descendant of John Throckmorton, who came to America with his friend, Roger Williams.

James was an innkeeper and became a shoemaker when he moved to Ohio from New Jersey. He dropped the "Throck" from his name, and he and his second wife, Sarah Miller, mother of Oliver, moved to Indiana.

When Oliver was three years old, his mother died; and he was sent to the home of two aunts, Polly and Hannah Miller, on a farm near Springfield, now Springdale, Ohio. He spent most of his time there until he was 15 years old.

His aunts were old-fashioned Scotch Presbyterians, and Oliver read the Bible through at an early age and studied catechism. The Biblical narrative affected his literary style, giving it strength and simplicity, Kate Milner Rabb, Hoosier historian, wrote in an article May 13, 1923, in The Indianapolis Star.

"The details of Morton's early life are much like those of other boys of the pioneer period,'' Mrs. Rabb pointed out. ''Each one worked with his hands at the duty that lay nearest him, usually without protest.''

Morton became an apothecary's clerk in Centerville. He then was ''bound out'' to learn the hatter's trade, and like Lincoln's rails, some of his products are still exhibited. Morton, however, did not like to pull out the hairs, cut the skins and sew hats of raccoon skin. He wanted to go to school.

One day he made a high silk hat, tacking on a broad, black band. He put down his needle and inspected his handiwork. As he caught a glimpse of himself in a cracked mirror on the wall, he clapped the high hat on his head, tapping it with a flourish.

''Fit for the governor! he exclaimed. ''I'll wear one of these some day.''

His half brother, at the bench beside him, didn't laugh. ''Poor folk like us don't ever wear hats like that,'' he said.

''I will. . .'' Morton said.

Years later — in 1947 — Ralph Brooks included the Morton story in an Indianapolis Star Magazine article (August 17) on ''poor boys'' who have filled the state's executive chair.

Morton attended the Wayne County Seminary, opened at Centerville in 1837 by Samuel K. Hoshour, later one of the state's best-known educators. In 1843 Morton entered Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, where he studied two years, working to pay his fees. There he developed a fondness for debate which he kept throughout his career.

''There was a female department at the Wayne County Seminary where many of the young ladies attended classes, and it is thought that Lucinda may have attended,'' according to Inezetta Stiver. ''She visited Miami University with a group of young ladies, and general opinion is that it was here that Oliver P. Morton met Lucinda.''

''Descendants of individuals who knew her remember the description of Lucinda as a gentle, very attractive, gracious and capable young lady.''

Oliver and Lucinda were married May 15, 1845 and set up housekeeping in Centerville. That same year Morton began to study law in the office of John S. Newman with whom Morton soon formed a partnership. Two years later Morton was associated with Charles H. Test and later with Nimrod Johnson.

In 1852 he was elected circuit judge. At the age of 30, married and with a family, he attended Cincinnati Law School and then returned to law practice in Centerville.

Originally a Democrat, Morton was one of the founders of the Republican party. He was the first Republican nominee for governor in

Indiana but was defeated in 1856 by Ashbel P. Willard, Democrat.

Morton was nominated for the office of lieutenant governor in 1860, with the understanding that if the Republicans were victorious, Henry S. Lane, the party's gubernatorial candidate, would be sent to the United States Senate, and Morton would succeed to the governorship. Lane was elected.

When Morton became governor in January, 1861, seven states already had seceded, and the threat of civil war hung over the land. Morton called for a cessation of partisan politics until the Union had been restored.

James Ford Rhodes called Morton, "The ablest and most energetic of the war governors of the Western States." Indiana and the entire West rallied to his stand to preserve the Union.

Three days after the attack on Fort Sumter, President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers. By telegraph the next day, Morton pledged 10,000 men from Indiana; and in seven days more than three times the number to fill the state's quota had volunteered.

A Democratic legislature was elected in 1862, and when it met in 1863, it attempted to take away Morton's command of the militia. Republican legislators walked out of the Statehouse to prevent a quorum and went to Madison until the constitutional end of the session.

Instead of calling a special session, Morton persuaded Republican officials in 16 counties of the state to lend money, and $250,000 was available in Federal funds for use in states threatened with rebellion. Morton set up his own bureau of finance to keep the money out of the hands of the Democratic state treasurer.

Lucinda remained at the Governor's Mansion at Market and Illinois Streets in Indianapolis, taking care of their family and consoling women who grieved as their sons went to war. The Mortons' daughters had died when very young. Mary Elizabeth, born December 10, 1848, died October 24, 1849, and Sarah Lilias, born August 10, 1850, died January 2, 1852. There were three sons: John Miller, Walter Scott and Oliver Throck.

When the Mortons learned that thousands of Hoosier troops in the Tennessee Mountains were shivering without overcoats that were supposed to be issued by the Federal government, the governor bought the coats himself and sent the bill to Washington.

Lucinda shared the daily agonies of war with the apprehensive crowd that gathered in front of the Indianapolis Sentinel office to read the casualty lists pasted in the window.

Word of Union defeats and threats of raids in southern Indiana prompted Governor Morton to work at the Statehouse many nights.

Lucinda kept a lamp burning near a window of their home. She encouraged her husband in his beliefs in the Union and his work in helping to win the war.

Governor Morton set up the Indiana Sanitary Commission, with branch offices over the North and as far South as Nashville, Tennessee, to aid wounded Hoosiers being cared for in poorly equipped field hospitals.

In 1864 he again ran for governor and defeated Joseph E. McDonald by 20,000 votes. A year later Morton had a stroke and thereafter had to walk with a cane.

In 1867 Morton was elected to the U.S. Senate and turned over the governorship to Lt. Gov. Conrad Baker.

"While my great-grandfather was still governor of Indiana, he was called to the White House by President Andrew Johnson to go on a secret mission to France," Santarelli de Brasch said. "My great-grandmother also had an unusual experience as a result of the mission.

"Grandfather was asked by the President to arrange an interview with the Emperor — Louis Napoleon — and to tell him to get the French troops out of Mexico or the United States would see that they were removed," Santarelli de Brasch stated in an interview. "There was not a word about this in writing, at the time, but I have records now.

"My grandfather was not well — in fact, he was going to Europe to consult physicians and have surgery which might help him overcome paralysis. He agreed to arrange for a meeting with Louis Napoleon. Baron Rothschild procured the interview in January, 1866. Napoleon assured grandfather that it had not been his purpose to retain possession of Mexico — only to secure rights of French creditors and residents and to leave the people of Mexico free to make their choice of rulers.

"As a result of grandfather's request on behalf of President Johnson, the Emperor on January 22, 1866, declared that the French expedition to Mexico had reached its limit, and the date of departure of French troops was fixed for April, 1866."

Santarelli de Brasch said that his grandfather and grandmother were invited by Napoleon to attend a formal reception at the Tuileries.

"Grandfather wanted to go, and he knew he must wear a court dress and sword. He did not feel well, but he went with Barry Sulgrove, his private secretary, to pick out a costume, complete with sword which fitted him.

"Grandmother selected a regal dress in Paris for the event. Then grandfather decided he could not stand a long time on his feet, so grandmother went to the reception without him."

After 10 years as a U.S. senator, Morton died on November 1, 1877, and was buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis.

Mrs. Morton retired from activities and built a house at 616 East 21st Street, Indianapolis, designing the house and drawing the plans herself. She lived there with her sister, Sarah Gill, until her death July 29, 1907, at age 82.

In an obituary, The Indianapolis Star, July 29, 1907, published details of her life.

Several years after her husband's death the legislature granted Mrs. Morton a pension of $100 a month in recognition that her husband had not been repaid money he had spent on state services.

"Mrs. Morton's devotion to her books amounted to a passion," The Star said. "Often she would wake up in the night, light a student's lamp which she had used for 30 years in scorn of gas and electricity, and read for hours. She continued to do this until two days before her death.

"Her retirement had been broken by a trip to Europe during which she spent a year in Oxford, England, where her son, Oliver, was taking a course at Oxford University. While there she was received in the best English society, being invited to the functions of the nobility. She met a number of great European statesmen and authors, and became quite well acquainted with Max Muller, the German philologist and Sanskrit scholar.

"It was Mrs. Morton's hope that she would live to see the dedication of the monument of her husband in front of the State House July 23 (1907). She watched with the greatest interest the development of plans for erecting the monument, helping select the design and offering suggestions tending to make the statue more lifelike.

"Her last appearance in public was on the occasion of the dedication of the Lawton (Major General Henry Ware Lawton) monument on Decoration Day. During the course of his speech on that occasion President (Theodore) Roosevelt referred to the great work her husband had done for the State, and turning toward where she was sitting addressed her directly. This attention on the part of the President greatly pleased her."

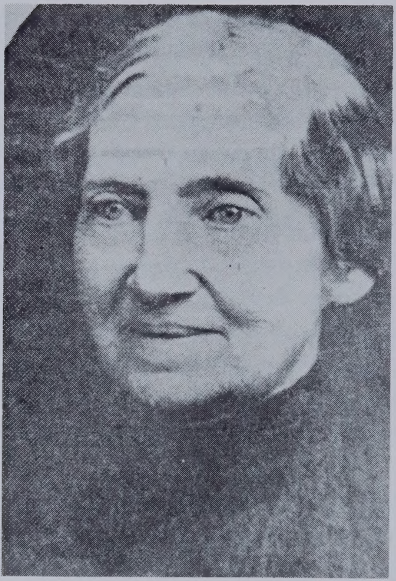
(The monument, erected at the southwest corner of the Marion County Court House later was moved to Garfield Park.)"

Walter S. Morton, then of Hartford, Connecticut, was the only one of her children to survive her. He and his son, Oliver P. Morton, and Mrs. Gill were present for the dedication of the Morton monument at the State House, but Mrs. Morton was bedridden. She died five days later.

She was buried in Crown Hill Cemetery.

Theodore Santarelli de Brasch, First National Bank of Boston executive, is a grandson of Walter Scott Morton and his wife, Susan Law Morton. De Brasch's parents are Alessandro Santarelli de Brasch of Rome, Italy, and Laura Morton Santarelli de Brasch, who was born in St. Paul, Minnesota.

There are two great-great grandsons of Indiana's Civil War Governor and his wife: Stephen Francis Santarelli de Brasch, 16, and Thomas Oliver Santarelli de Brasch, 15. Their mother is Isolde H. Santarelli de Brasch, wife of Theodore, and the family home is in South Hamilton, Massachusetts.



Charlotte Frances Chute Baker

(1867 - 1873)

When Charlotte Frances Chute Baker went with her husband, Governor Conrad Baker, to visit the Indiana Insane Hospital, she was horrified to see elderly people who were not mentally ill housed there because their relatives did not want to care for them.

The First Lady was so concerned she decided to help these women.

She learned that women of the Daily Union Prayer Meeting of the Y.M.C.A. were concerned about homeless elderly people. They discovered that widows of Civil War soldiers were living in jail because they had no homes.

Working with the Union Prayer group and others, Mrs. Baker became one of the founders of the Home for the Friendless, which is now the Indianapolis Retirement Home, 1731 North Capitol Avenue. The home has been operated at the same site for 116 years.

Checking the history of the home, which is supported by private donations and endowments, Mrs. Louis E. Kincannon, board president, and Mrs. John O. SerVaas, immediate past president, found that the home was incorporated March 11, 1867. This was done under an Indiana law enacted that year (while Conrad Baker was governor) "to undertake the care and support of aged females who cannot support themselves."

A house was rented until a permanent one was built and occupied on June 20, 1867, at the corner of Tennessee and North Streets, renamed Capitol Avenue and 18th streets, in 1894 and 1895 respectively.

Many changes have been made, including new buildings, but the location is the same. Residents now pay a nominal admission fee.

Through the years descendants of the 15th First Lady have served as board members and in other volunteer service for the home.

Charlotte Frances Chute came from a distinguished family which traced its history to the eleventh century.

Evans Woollen, Indianapolis architect, great-grandson of the Bakers, recalls that his grandmother, Nancy Baker Woollen, took him to England when he was a boy to see the manor house and estate which belonged to Baron LaChute.

"He was one of William the Conqueror's lieutenants who set sail from Normandy in 1066 with an army of thousands to claim the English crown," Woollen said.

"After William marched to London and forced the Saxons to elect him King, he rewarded LaChute with a manor and the title of Baron."

Charlotte Chute's father — whom Woollen said was a "younger son of a younger son" — came to Newburyport, Massachusetts, and enrolled in Dartmouth in New Hampshire. By then the family shortened the name to Chute.

"He was in the graduating class of 1820," Woollen said.

He then rode horseback to Madison, Indiana, to teach school. Later he was a friend of Edward Eggleston and was his model when the author wrote "The Hoosier Schoolmaster."

Charlotte Chute was born October 4, 1833, at Madison; and the family moved to Evansville when she was three years old.

Conrad Baker was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, February 12, 1817. After attending Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, he studied law in the office of Thaddeus Stevens.

In 1841 he moved to Evansville, Indiana, and served in the Indiana House of Representatives from 1845 to 1846. In 1856 he was defeated as a Republican lieutenant governor nominee.

He was a well-established attorney and widower with several children older than Charlotte Chute when they were married in 1858. They had five children of their own.

During the Civil War, he was commissioned colonel of the First Indiana cavalry and served with General John C. Fremont in the western campaigns.

Colonel Baker sent word to Charlotte that she was needed to nurse wounded soldiers behind the lines. She left her first-born baby with relatives in Indianapolis and went by ship down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to Missouri. There she volunteered as a nurse.

Following Civil War service, Baker was assistant provost marshal general for Indiana. In 1864 he was elected lieutenant governor, and he became governor in 1867 when Governor Morton was elected to the United States Senate. Baker was elected to his own term as governor in 1868.

The governor and Mrs. Baker lived in the stately Governor's Mansion at Market and Illinois streets.

During Baker's administration appropriations were made for the Normal School at Terre Haute, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Knightstown, the Women's Prison at Indianapolis and the Boys' School at Plainfield. The site of Purdue University was determined.

David Mannweiler, in his book, "Governors of Indiana," tells of the assassination attempt on President Andrew Johnson during a visit with Governor Baker.

"President Johnson visited Indianapolis on September 10, 1866, with General U.S. Grant and Adm. David Farragut, to speak on his views regarding reconstruction, which led to the dispute with Congress and later efforts to remove him by impeachment," Mannweiler said.

"As Johnson attempted to speak to a crowd, a riot broke out in which several persons near the podium were wounded by pistol shots. President Johnson's hotel was surrounded by soldiers during the rioting, which continued all night, much to the embarrassment of Baker and the state."

When Governor Baker's administration ended, he entered the law firm of Hendricks, Hord and Hendricks, replacing Thomas A. Hendricks, his successor as governor.

The Bakers moved to a large house on Alabama Street where they had room to entertain children, grandchildren and friends. Mrs. Baker was known as an excellent cook and a gracious hostess.

They had a stable of horses, a cow and a vegetable garden.

The former First Lady continued to work in charity projects and the First Presbyterian Church.

A granddaughter, the late Mrs. Perry O'Neal, told of her grandmother's love of cooking and of her delicious cakes including a white fruit cake.

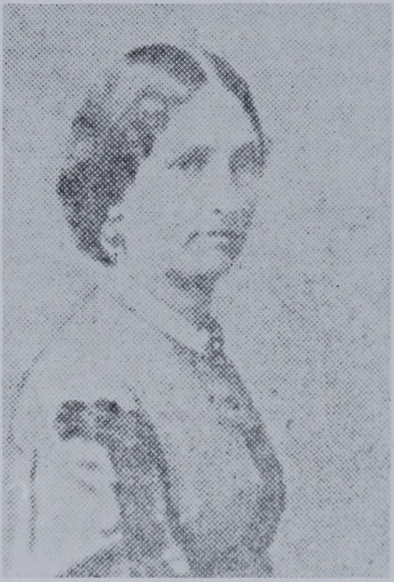
Governor Baker died in Indianapolis April 28, 1885, and is buried in Evansville.

Charlotte Baker died November 11, 1902, at her home, 1617 Talbot Street, Indianapolis, according to an obituary in The Indianapolis News.

Her funeral was the following day, and she was buried at Evansville beside her husband.

Survivors were the children of Governor and Mrs. Baker: Alice Baker, Mrs. Evans Woollen, Mrs. Jacquelin S. Holliday and Thaddeus R. Baker, all of Indianapolis, and Mrs. Herbert L. Anderson of Jacksonville, Florida, and two sons of Governor Baker by a former marriage, Albert Baker of Indianapolis and William B. Baker of San Juan, California.

Alice Holliday Miller of Shooters Hill, Richmond, Virginia, in a letter, confirmed information about her Grandmother Baker and regretted that she has few family records about her. She does have a genealogy of the Baker family.



Eliza Morgan Hendricks

(1873 - 1877)

When Eliza Morgan of North Bend, Ohio, arrived in Shelbyville in 1843 to visit her sister, Mrs. Daniel West, a round of lively parties and receptions were planned in honor of the pretty teen-age girl.

Vivacious and accomplished, Eliza was at ease in society; and she entered into the festivities with graciousness and sophistication, just as she did at home where she had been the object of much romantic interest.

New romance developed quickly at Shelbyville when young Tom Hendricks met Eliza at one of the parties where an extra escort was needed. The young man who was born in a log cabin looked at the merry-hearted girl, and her smile won his immediate admiration and attention.

"They were much in company together, and formed for each other a deep attachment," are the words in the 1886 "Life and Public Services of Thomas A. Hendricks" by John W. Holcombe and Hubert M. Skinner. "The season was one of indescribable charm to both, and its memory was ever fondly cherished," the account continues.

The young attorney, a Hanover College graduate, was practicing law with Stephen Major in Shelbyville following study in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. But he found time to continue attention to the beautiful girl. Letters were exchanged frequently, and his trips to North Bend were termed "occasions of greatest pleasure."

Miss Morgan's father, Isaac Morgan, died several years before the young people met; and she lived with her mother in one of two large stone mansions built by her grandfather, Dr. Stephen Wood, one of the earliest settlers in North Bend. Eliza's grandmother, also a widow, lived in the other spacious home.

The land adjoined that of General William H. Harrison, a fellow Virginian and long-time friend of Dr. Wood. Harrison was the ninth President of the United States, but his term of office was short. He caught pneumonia during the inauguration and died 31 days later.

Hendricks' recollections note that both mansions "were furnished with the elegant characteristics of Virginia homes." His hosts were hospitable in manners and refined in tastes, and the luxuries of the table and library alike engaged the guest from Shelbyville.

But the chief charm was Eliza, "whose soul was the soul of the home." She was a favorite of leading families of Cincinnati; and on summer days, she entertained many young people at her family's estate overlooking the Ohio River.

Hendricks worked diligently for two years in Shelbyville after his first meeting with Eliza — making sure that he could provide a suitable home for a wife, a home where they might enjoy independence necessary for true happiness.

He could look back on a family history of sturdy, responsible citizens. His ancestry was of Scotch and Dutch origin. As early as 1749 the Hendricks name was conspicuous in the Province of Pennsylvania, according to "A Popular History of Indiana" published in 1891 with an introduction by Mrs. Thomas A. Hendricks.

When Hendricks was six months old, his parents, John and Jane Thompson Hendricks, moved from Zanesville, Ohio, to Madison, Indiana, the home of William Hendricks, paternal uncle of young Tom, a member of the House of Representatives, Indiana governor and United States Senator.

Two years later, the family moved to Shelbyville, where John Hendricks held the first title to land in that area. They lived in a log cabin for a short time; and then Major Hendricks, as he was known, built a large, substantial brick residence.

Home culture was of great value and the Bible was the most loved of classics in the household, Hendricks recalled many times. Shakespeare, Milton, Byron and English history were studied and often read aloud. Hendricks was a studious pupil and labored to excel.

It was with this background that he won the respect and confidence of the Hanover College faculty and the affectionate regard of fellow students. As a young lawyer, he was described as "courageous, determined and industrious.'' After two years, he had an income sufficient to provide comfortable support for a wife.

When young Hendricks visited Eliza Morgan in September, 1845, he no sooner arrived by stage coach in North Bend than he begged her to name the day for their wedding.

Her girl friends answered for her by urging, ''Tomorrow!''

Eliza's mother was stunned with her daughter's agreement that, indeed, the wedding would take place the next day. With Eliza, her mother, her friends and the bridegroom-to-be working frantically on many details — from clothes to ceremony — orderly plans crystallized.

The marriage was celebrated in the home of Eliza's Grandmother Wood on September 26, 1845, with the Rev. Mr. Jones, Baptist minister of Cheviott, officiating.

A wedding feast was spread the next day at the home of Mrs. Wood. After a few days in picturesque North Bend, the couple bade farewell, went to Cincinnati and sailed on a steamboat down the river to Madison.

They were guests for a day at the home of his uncle, William Hendricks, then retired from the U.S. Senate, and Mrs. Hendricks (Ann Paul Hendricks), daughter of Col. John Paul, founder of Madison.

They went then to Shelbyville to the home of the bridegroom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hendricks, and on to their own cottage.

Their first home was simple but comfortable.

Marian McFadden, in her ''Biography of a Town — Shelbyville,'' reported that ''the Stephans' Shoe Store had purchased a lot back of the store, which fronted on East Franklin Street. On that lot there was an old frame cottage which the Shelby Democrat said originally stood on East Washington at the Stephans' locations — and there the Hendrickses started housekeeping.''

Miss McFadden said it was reported that one time or another they lived with the Days on North Harrison at Pennsylvania Street.

''It may be that the doctor purchased the house at Harrison and Mechanic for his wife's cousin until the young lawyer was able financially to acquire ownership,'' the well-known Hoosier librarian and author continued. ''However, Hendricks did acquire the deed in 1848, and they lived there at that time.''

It was in this little house that a son was born to the couple in 1848. Little Morgan, a beautiful child with winsome ways, lived only three years; and they had no other children. Throughout their lives the Hendrickses cherished pictures of the child and kept them close at hand in the ''family'' rooms of their various homes in Indiana and Washington.

A 1903 story in The Indianapolis News looked back on the many things young Mrs. Hendricks did to assist her husband in his profession. "She immediately made herself her husband's helpmate and comrade, and threw her soul into his plans and purposes. The dominant note in her character was womanliness. Her housekeeping was notable and was conducted with a simplicity in accord with their modest income."

The story is told of Mrs. Hendricks' help in getting her young attorney husband to court one stormy morning. He was to plead a case before a justice several miles away in the country. Because of frigid weather and a creek to cross on ice, he was going to delegate the case to another attorney. But his wife got up early, prepared a hot breakfast, got out his leggings and wraps and helped him get on the way.

He won the case and was so successful in doing so that his client helped him secure other cases.

Mrs. Hendricks assisted with a garden, after the fashion of the period, with colorful old-fashioned roses and hollyhocks, and "established a horticultural reputation not yet forgotten in Shelbyville."

The Hendrickses became Indianapolis residents in 1860 when he joined the law firm of Hendricks, Hord and Hendricks. He served in the Indiana House of Representatives, the constitutional convention of 1850 and Congress. From 1855 to 1859, he was commissioner of the General Land Office in Washington; and he made a national reputation as one of the leading northern Democrats in the Senate during the Civil War and Reconstruction.

In his third race for governor of Indiana, he was elected the 16th governor in 1872, defeating Thomas N. Browne, a Civil War hero, in a campaign centering on prohibition. He had been defeated in 1860 by Henry S. Lane, and in 1868 by Conrad Baker, the 15th governor.

From 1868 until his death in 1885, Hendricks was advocated for the presidential nomination at every Democratic national convention except 1872.

In 1884, eight years after he retired as governor, Hendricks was elected vice-president as the running mate of Grover Cleveland.

While Hendricks was Indiana governor, their home was the substantial brick house at the corner of Tennessee and St. Clair streets which he purchased in 1865. The house was built about 1830 by the first sheriff of Marion County and is believed to have been a station on the underground railroad during the Civil War.

The Hendrickses entertained at fortnightly receptions, and their hospitality was said to be generous and elegant. Many noted persons were their guests.

Mrs. Hendricks took an active part in "women's affairs of the day" and a tribute to her in The Indianapolis News noted: "Forceful herself, she had no patience with weakness or trifling, and the woman who went bravely out into the world as a breadwinner won Mrs. Hendricks' heart.''

She was a promoter of the Woman's Reformatory, known later as the Indiana Industrial School for Girls, and Women's Prison. Through her efforts and work of other women, the state legislature made an appropriation for the institution, which from the start was controlled by women. Mrs. Hendricks was the first president of the board and continued in that office for several years.

She worked ceaselessly for benevolent institutions.

The longest time she ever spent away from her husband was in 1875 when she became ill from the many demands on her as First Lady. She spent three months in California with relatives. Friends noted that her husband was ''so unfashionable as to be in love with Eliza.''

The following year they moved to the Bates House at 119-121 North Capitol Avenue where they lived for eight years after he retired as governor. They entertained at small parties there and went to Europe for pleasure.

Then when Hendricks was elected vice president, both he and Mrs. Hendricks were called upon again for many duties. His presence at the Democratic convention where he was nominated prompted ''10,000 voices united in singing the tender words of 'Auld Lang Syne' at the mention of his name.''

An elaborate ball was given in honor of Mrs. Hendricks in Washington, and they had a busy and happy eight months there.

During a visit to Indiana, he died November 25, 1885, and was buried in Crown Hill Cemetery.

Mrs. Hendricks gave $25,000 for a library at Hanover in memory of her husband, and she paid off the debt of St. Paul's Episcopal Church where her husband had been warden.

With literary friends, she edited ''A Popular History of Indiana,'' published by the Indianapolis Sentinel Co. in 1891.

In the introduction, Mrs. Hendricks wrote: ''This book is intended to be, in the fullest degree, what its title indicates — a 'Popular History of Indiana' — not only in the sense of being work for popular reading, but also in the sense of being a history of the people of Indiana, rather than a mere record of military and political events.''

Copies of the books are in the Indiana State Library and main branch of Indianapolis-Marion County Public Libraries.

She died in 1904 in her home at 840 North Meridian Street. Her brother, Stephen Morgan, survived. She was buried in Crown Hill beside Thomas, and their son, Morgan, whose body was moved from Shelbyville in 1883.

Nancy Huffman Williams

(1877 - 1880)

The governor called her "Honey."

She was Nancy Huffman Williams, wife of Governor "Blue Jeans" (James D.) Williams. Happiness for her came from a loving family and the richness of the good earth.

Two Hoosier great-granddaughters, Mrs. Robert Peden of Petersburg and Mrs. Paul Freemen of Bedford, recall many stories about the joyful union of the Williamses.

"She was a plain country woman, devoted to her family and proud of her husband," Mrs. Peden said of the 17th First Lady of Indiana. "She never saw the inside of the Statehouse built with the governor's supervision, and she was never inside the Governor's Mansion."

Mrs. Peden's mother, Ruth Davidson, who lived almost a century, remembered many stories about her grandparents whom she visited at Pond Creek.

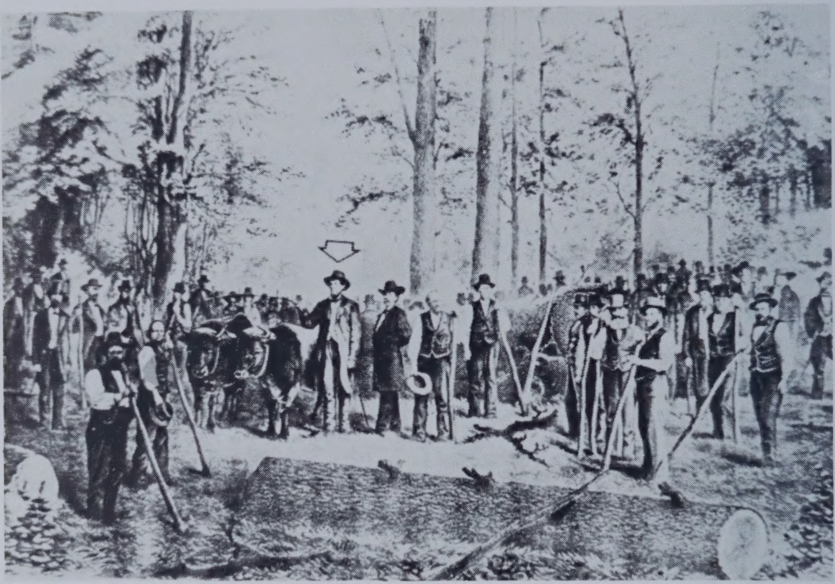
James Williams was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, January 16, 1808, and came to Knox County, Indiana, in 1818. His boyhood, Williams later said, was one of privation, and he never got past the fifth grade in a primitive log cabin school. He learned the value of working many hours and of taking care of farm land.

Family records of 1831 say "Nancy Huffman and James Douglass Williams were wedded in her country home." James immediately gave her the name of "Honey" by which she was known the rest of her life.

The governor's grandson, J.D. Williams, wrote in 1935, "The Williamses settled shortly after marriage six miles south of Wheatland on Pond Creek in a cabin of two large rooms. Neighbors helped him cut the logs."

While Nancy set up housekeeping, James began work on a three-story grist mill after constructing a dam 200 feet long and 6 feet high. The mill became a community center where farmers and their wives came for supplies, talk of politics and news of the farmland round about.

As a girl Nancy learned the value and beauty of sewing and the need and warmth of hand-knotted comforters. The music of the mill was a friendly sound that she could hear all day long as she worked.



Log rolling on dock at Furnas' farm near Danville, Indiana. The man indicated by arrow is said to be Governor James D. Williams.

When the mill and farmland he purchased provided an ample living, Williams sawed house and barn patterns and built a story and a half farm house with five large rooms, an office and two large porches.

Meanwhile, Nancy was busy with a family — seven children in all — and they created their own good times and working schedules. The children played on the banks of Pond Creek, caught tadpoles and carved toy sail boats. They learned to make pink, red and white hollyhock dolls for make-believe boat passengers. Sometimes the dolls were guests at tea parties.

It was just a short distance from the house to the mill where Nancy and the children went to get cornmeal for hoecakes or cornbread.

Self-sufficiency was a challenge instead of drudgery for Nancy. The children helped with a big vegetable garden where she had special rows for lemon lillies, pinks, candy-tuft, four-o'clocks, snap dragons and scarlet sage.

Her kitchen was colorful, filled with fresh vegetables and the spicy aroma of preserves and jellies. The children took turns churning and making butter patties, and Nancy separated whey from clabber and hung little bags of curd on a tree limb to drain cheese. She saved grease drippings and made soap with lye and wood ashes.

She sang as she spun and sewed.

Twice on Sunday the Williams family walked to church and often went to neighbors' homes for strawberry sociables. The children always were spic and span in their Sunday best, but their father insisted that they go barefoot. He remembered childhood poverty.

Williams became one of the most prosperous farmers in southern Indiana. He was one of the few early farmers to embrace the principles of scientific farming — "book farmin" the scoffers called it — and he won prizes for his products.

Mrs. Peden, who has done much research on her family, said "At the State Fair in 1857, Williams and his sons took 15 first premiums."

Williams was so interested in education that he insisted his children and grandchildren have more than rural schooling.

His granddaughter, Mrs. Davidson, remembered being sent to St. John's Academy in Indianapolis for nine years because of the high standards there.

Eventually, Williams became the owner of 3,000 acres of fertile Knox County land, and he owned a pork packing plant. He also served a term on the State Board of Agriculture.

Of the seven Williams children, only Sarah Elizabeth, Eliza, John and George grew to adulthood, according to most records. Some list another son.

Becoming interested in politics, Williams was elected Justice of the Peace in 1839, a post he resigned in 1843 to run successfully for the Indiana General Assembly. He served as representative off and on for the next 30 years.

He was defeated for the office of State Representative in 1845, elected again in 1847, elected to the State Senate in 1848 and 1851, elected a State Representative in 1854, and to the Senate in 1858 where he served until 1874.

A shrewd politican, Williams worked hard at being a character, which got him attention and votes. He earned the "Blue Jeans" sobriquet by wearing distinctive suits made of blue denim to dramatize his farm background and his advocacy of economy in government.

His Lincolnesque qualities — his 6-foot, 4-inch height, his plain ways, his calculated judgments — were emphasized in campaigns by his fellow Democrats. He liked to tell people that he "just grew up between two corn rows." Campaign literature called him "a plain man with mud on his shoes." In 1874 he was elected to Congress from the Vincennes area. Sophisticated Washington people laughed at him, but Williams took it in stride and continued to oppose and vote against Federal spending.

He was named chairman of the committee on accounts in the House of Representatives. He cut the number of committee clerks, cut out lemon and sugar for cool drinks in the cloak room and cut the cost of stationery, pen knives and other supplies.

At home, Hoosiers liked their new congressman and his advocacy of economy in government.

Democrats, casting about for a candidate for the 1876 gubernatorial race, nominated Williams without his knowledge. Since Nancy was content to stay at home during Williams' service in Washington, she continued her simple life with children and grandchildren during the gubernatorial campaign. She was quite satisfied to let James do the "politicking."

At first the Republican nominee for governor in 1876 against Williams was Godlove S. Orth, a veteran of several congressional terms, and, at the time of the nomination, U.S. minister to Vienna. Orth's name became involved in a Venezuelan scandal, and he withdrew from the ticket.

Then Benjamin Harrison, a successful Indianapolis railroad lawyer, and a Greenbacker, Henry W. Harrington, entered the race. At issue was the principle of "hard" versus "soft" money and Republican "corruption" — the latter growing out of the Credit Mobilier scandal, U.S. Grant's "Watergate."

Democrats labeled Harrison the "kid gloves candidate" and, to cite the homespun qualities of Williams, groups of men formed Blue Jeans Clubs that marched and sang songs about their leader.

Williams defeated Harrison by some 5,000 votes.

When he was inaugurated at the Indianapolis Academy of Music in 1876, he was introduced by Governor Thomas Hendricks. For the ceremony, Williams wore a new suit of blue jeans lined with silk given to him by women from Louisville, Kentucky. He wore a black kerchief around his neck and a slender watch chain across his spotless white shirt front.

He was host that evening at a reception and ball at the Occidental Hotel where he had a suite of rooms during his term as governor.

After his inauguration, the Vincennes Sun Commercial, said: "Entering his home (at Wheatland), its cleanly, orderly appearance, air of comfort and homelike atmosphere were critically noted.

"Asked for the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Williams, the Governor ushered her into the room; and the introduction that followed was as ceremonious as the inaugural.

"I noticed that he addressed Mrs. Williams as 'Honey' and in answer to a knock at the door, he called to his little granddaughter, 'Come in, my little partridge.'

"Mrs. Williams wore a linsey-woolsey dress with a white collar about her neck. On her head was a very pretty neat cap. She had a very pleasant, winning face and her voice was clear and pleasant.

"Asked if she would accompany the Governor to Indianapolis, she replied that she hardly thought so; that perhaps she would be of more help to her family by remaining in her home than she would be by going to Indianapolis."

Williams, the first state governor elected from Knox County, was known as the farm governor. During his term of office, there was considerable labor unrest in the nation. In July, 1877, a railroad strike crippled the Midwest and Indianapolis became the center of turbulence.

Williams was asked to order the militia into the capital, but he declined to do so. Some Indianapolis residents organized themselves into military companies to protect their property.

Among laws which he supported during his legislative career was one relating to widows, allowing them to hold the estates of their deceased husbands without administration when the estate did not exceed a certain sum.

He also fostered a law in regard to loaning the school sinking fund, the same as other school money, so that schools could have the benefit of interest. He was a friend of the Indiana common school system and labored zealously in behalf of benevolent and charitable institutions.

In 1872 he was supported by the Democrats of the Indiana Legislature for the United States Senate, losing by 19 votes.

In 1880 Mrs. Williams was injured in a fall from which she never recovered. The governor was at her bedside every spare moment and was with her when she died.

"Williams never recovered from the shock of her death," the Indiana Magazine of History in a 1926 issue said. "Some weeks after her death, he was discovered by his widowed daughter, Mrs. Eliza Dunn, hidden in the hay mow at this farm home, while great sobs of grief shook his frame and tears coursed down his cheeks."

On Mrs. William's monument is found this simple inscription: "Faithful as a Mother, Wife and Friend."

Governor Williams died five months later on November 20, 1880, at Indianapolis, two months before the end of his gubernatorial term.

Governor Williams is buried in the little Walnut Grove cemetery, six miles south of Wheatland (Knox County) near his wife's grave. Very different, however, is his marker. It is a large shaft, nearly 40 feet tall.

Eliza Jaqua Gray

(1880 - 1881) (1885 - 1889)

Even before Eliza Jaqua Gray became the 18th First Lady of Indiana, she learned that politics can cause controversy.

As Republican president pro tempore of the state senate under Governor Conrad Baker in May, 1869, Isaac Pusey Gray locked the door of the senate chamber and declared that a quorum was present for the vote for ratification of the 15th amendment to the United States Constitution.

Indiana was the last state to vote on the amendment which provided "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

But Eliza Gray was not daunted by crises.

"She moved with dignity, ease and poise," Mrs. Louie Sellers, Bradenton, Florida, granddaughter of Eliza's sister, Ladessa, confirmed in a letter May 31, 1982.

"She was a charming First Lady. She met strangers easily, was a good conversationalist, though slightly to the serious side rather than idle chit-chat."

So concerned was Mrs. Gray about historical records that she traced a complete genealogy of the first Jaqua coming from France as well as the entire Jaqua family history. And, at 72, she traveled east to search for land and probate records pertaining to her Colonial forebears.

Records preserved by Mrs. Sellers; Attorney John Philip Jaqua, Toledo, Ohio; the late Bernice L. Keffer, Union City; and the Union City, Indiana, area library provide the story of Eliza's imperturbable parents.

Her father, Judson Jaqua, son of a cooper, was born April 1, 1792, at Columbia City, New York. When Judson was 15, the family moved to Bradford County, Pennsylvania, and he lived with his parents until he was 21. The family was not wealthy, and he had just 12 days of schooling.

In Bradford County, he met Lucinda Braffett, whose father died when she was 11. During her teens she worked as a hired girl for two and a half years for 75 cents per week. On December 15, 1816, when he was 24 and she 19, they were married. On their 50th wedding anniversary, 1866, Judson Jaqua wrote about their early life.

Ten months after their marriage, they began a pilgrimage westward, driving an ox team as far as the Allegheny River. There they sold the team and wagon (on credit).

After a brief rest, they came on a flat boat down the Allegheny to Pittsburgh, where they lost their boat because of high water. They had only about $200. They joined some other people in building a raft, and after a perilous trip down the Ohio, reached Cincinnati in 1817, a year and a half after they started.

They were almost out of money, but they hired a team and moved to Warren County, Ohio, six miles east of Lebanon, into an old log cabin which had no chimney and no doors. By then the couple had one bushel of corn meal and fifty cents in cash; but they cut wood, fixed the cabin and grew and hunted food.

With several other families of Connecticut Yankees they moved in April, 1819, to Darke County, Ohio, and called their settlement Yankeetown. Judson bought land from the government for $1 per acre.

He was a persevering worker and a leader in the community. He helped to get schools, was a watch and clock repairman for the village and made all the shoes for his large family.

Judson Jaqua served as justice of peace, county surveyor and associate judge in Darke County. When he was elected justice of peace, he found a law book which detailed an act defining the method whereby school districts could be laid out. The people of his area defined boundaries of a district which they entitled H-1.

Eliza Jaqua Gray was the sixth of 12 children of Judson and Lucinda Braffett Jaqua. Her birth date was November 12, 1828.

Others were Charles, who became a physician; James B., Hiram and Allen, all lawyers; Wealthy; Ellen, who lived only a year; Morris, who died in infancy; Terissa; Perry, who died in infancy; Cassius, and Ladessa, wife of R.H. Snodgrass, who died at the birth of her daughter, Dessa. The child was raised by the grandparents.

"Aunt Eliza always spoke in kindest appreciation of the training and education her parents provided for all their children," Mrs. Sellers (granddaughter of Ladessa Jaqua), said in a letter from Florida.

"She had a good sense of humor and was most particular of her appearance. She had very white skin, beautiful white hair (in later years) and usually dressed in silk."

Eloisa Jaqua Owens, writing to "Cousin Walter" from Mason City, Iowa, June 6, 1937, said in a P.S. — "Father Jaqua asked her (Eliza Jaqua Gray) if her hair had always been white. She laughed and said it was very red when she was young."

Eliza Jaqua and Isaac Gray, who was one month older, met when he entered school in New Madison — the school made possible through the foresight of Eliza's father.

Gray's ancestors were Quakers. His great-grandfather came to this country from England with William Penn and served in the General Assembly of the Pennsylvania Colony while Penn was governor.

When Isaac Gray was four years old, his parents, John and Hanna Worthington Gray, migrated to Urbana, Ohio, and, in 1842, they settled in New Madison, Darke County.

Isaac Gray and Eliza Jaqua were married September 8, 1850, by the Rev. Peter Croker. Then they left for Union City, Indiana, where Isaac wanted to work.

He had only a common school education, but hoped to study law, and he was encouraged to do so by Eliza. He became proprietor of a general store, and the family was known for pride and industry. Two children, Lyman and Warren, died in infancy. Pierre, born in 1853, and Bayard, born in 1855, in pre-school years often went with their mother to the store. She waited on customers in search of muslin, calico or sprigged muslin. The little boys learned their alphabet from their father's law books and arithmetic by making change for customers. Their father studied during every spare hour.

Both boys became lawyers.

Isaac was admitted to the bar and also worked in a bank in Union City. Later he established the Citizen Bank. The Grays lived in a two-story brick house of Victorian design. Shade trees and double brick walls made the house comfortable both summer and winter. The house was razed several years ago. When the late Mrs. Keffer was librarian, a newel post salvaged from the house was used as a wall plaque in the library.

Gray served as colonel of the Fourth Indiana Calvary in the Civil War and was an officer of the state militia that fought Governor John Morgan's raid across Southern Indiana. In 1865 when President Lincoln sent out a call for volunteers, Colonel Gray recruited the 147th Regiment of Infantry composed of 10 companies.

Gray entered politics after the war as a Republican, sought a congressional seat against George W. Julian, Independent Republican, but lost the nomination.

Gray was a state senator (1868 - 1870), then shifted parties — first to the Liberal Republican, then to the Democratic — and was elected lieutenant-governor as a Democrat. He served as governor the few months after Gov. James Williams died in office. Gray was elected governor in his own right in 1884, serving from January 12, 1885, to January 14, 1889.

Legislation enacted during Gray's term as governor included an appropriation of $200,000 for the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Indianapolis, funds for a children's school for the retarded at Fort Wayne, and funds to rebuild the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans Home at Knightstown.

Gray practiced law in Indianapolis at the end of his term as governor.

Little is recorded about the Grays' social life during the many years he was involved in politics. Mrs. Gray was known as a gracious hostess, and photographs show her dressed beautifully with lace collars, dainty earrings and a jeweled fan comb which held her hair in a French twist.

A special supplement to Harper's Weekly in 1888 gave insight to what Indianapolis was like when Gray was governor. Willard Howard wrote a highly complimentary article, serving notice to the East that Indianapolis was not a whit inferior to any New England town and suggesting there were all the ingredients to make the Hoosier capital a manufacturing center.

Howard devoted considerable attention to land and development prices in the city. Business property on Washington Street was selling for $1,000 per front foot, and dwelling property was going for $100 per front foot. Outside the city limits residential plots were $500 per acre and properties along the railways entering the city "are sold on easy terms at from $250 to $500 an acre," Howard said.

Four years after Governor Gray's term expired he was appointed Minister to Mexico by President Grover Cleveland. Family records show that Eliza represented Indiana and the United States with irreproachable poise and thoughtfulness.

Governor and Mrs. Gray returned to Indiana to attend a farewell reception for Governor Claude Matthews. On the trip back to Mexico City, Governor Gray had a stroke.

He died February 14, 1895, soon after their arrival at Mexico City. President Diaz ordered flags in Mexico City flown at half staff. The funeral and burial were in Union City, Indiana, following return of the body to the state capitol where it lay in state two days.

In the summer of 1900, Eliza, then approaching her 72nd birthday, and her niece, Ida Mary Jaqua Walker, traveled to Connecticut and Boston in search of documents pertaining to her ancestors — Aaron and Rebecca Jaqua, their sons and others. John P. Jaqua, Toledo, Ohio, attorney, who is writing a history of the Jaqua family, said: "Eliza made it possible for the posterity of Jaqua brothers to learn about their patriotic services during such an important and remembered period of American history."

She found their Revolutionary War records, and in the spring of 1901, seated at her desk at 1309 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, she wrote to the Department of Interior, Bureau of Pensions, in Washington, D.C. She requested Revolutionary War military history on the four eldest sons of Aaron Jaqua, and she received information concerning pensions and records.

From records of the Gore family, still preserved by Mrs. Sellers in Florida, Eliza Gray learned that her great aunt, Hannah Gore Durkee, went to a little school in the Pennsylvania woods with Frances Slocum's brother.

"In 1778 Indians raided cabins, scalped men, women and children and burned villages. The Indians killed Mr. Slocum, wounded William and took Chester and little Frances prisoners," Hannah Durkee wrote in her day book. "Whenever Mrs. Slocum saw me years after that I brought to mind her lost Frances, and many has been the time I have witnessed her tears in speaking of her."

Many years later, Frances' brothers learned that she was with the Miami Tribe. When they visited her near Peru, Indiana, they recognized the wrinkled, 64-year-old squaw — Maconaqa — as their sister.

Eliza Gray in later years was organizing regent of the Anthony Wayne chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Indianapolis. She lived with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Gray. Pierre died November 25, 1907. Eliza Gray died February 13, 1908.

She is buried in the Gray mausoleum in the Union City Cemetery, Union City, Indiana.

Cornelia Stone Porter

(1881 - 1885)

Albert Gallatin Porter was recognized nationally for his political and financial expertise when he met Miss Cornelia Stone of Jamestown, N.Y. He was 54 years old, had been a widower several years and was serving as the first comptroller of the United States in Washington, D.C., the appointee of President Rutherford B. Hayes.

Porter's first wife, Minerva V. Brown, died November 25, 1875.

Cornelia, sophisticated and widely traveled, was known for her interest in writing, books and the theater. The daughter of Ithiel and Sarah G. Stone, she was born in 1834 at Cuba, New York, the fourth of five children.

Her father was born in Ovid, Seneca County, N.Y., in 1803, went to Cuba in the early 1840s and had more than average success as a lumberman. The Cuba Historical Society has record of the Stones' first home of stature, built on the George S. Cole farm on land deeded to Stone October 11, 1848.

A white iron railing across the lower edge of the front porch was a distinctive feature of the house, and long blinds shielded the two front doors, one on the west and one on the south. The house was Greek style, introduced in their country by Thomas Jefferson.

"A marble walk approached the house, and a horse block and its attendant 'hitching post' stood convenient at the South Street entrance," according to library records.

At the northeast corner of the land near a large elm tree, Stone helped to build the first school house in that area. A map of 1869 shows the Stone house as the property of Mrs. Ithiel V. Stone, and a small house on the north owned by Samuel Story Jr.

Mrs. Stone's family, the Gurnees, were French merchants in New York City. She had a sister, Mrs. Thomas Lancaster.

In the Allegany County Museum's historical files are copies of deeds showing that between 1848 and 1859 Ithiel V. Stone bought several parcels of land in Cuba and Clarksville, New York. Four pages list names of the Stone children "signing off" their interests in their late father's estate to their mother.

Cornelia's age, in the 1855 census — the year of the records — was listed as 21. She had two brothers, Roy and Guy, and two sisters, Ella and Ida.

Ella married a Mr. Davis, New York City attorney, and they lived on Long Island. Ida died at 19 and is buried in Cuba cemetery near her father and mother. Guy was a bachelor.

Roy Stone was perhaps the most colorful of the family. He was associated with his father in the lumber business; and during the Civil War, he organized the "Blacktail" regiment of Pennsylvania. After the Battle of Gettysburg, he was named a general.

He also was a mining engineer and "instigated, and directed, the blowing out of Hell Gate in the East River, New York," according to records kept by John Lanning, a New York historian.

General Stone also was the inventor of the "Peg Leg" railroad, a one-rail type which was put into operation for a time between Bradford and Dwight City, N.Y. It was abandoned after an explosion. A model of the Peg Leg Railroad was operated at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876. The engineer was a Cuba man, Albert Underwood, cousin of Antoniette Adams. A report shows that Don Pedro, the only foreign magnate to visit the Centennial, rode on the monorail.

Roy Stone also built roads on Cuba Island and the Isle of Pines.

He married Mary Parker of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They moved to New York City to educate their children, Richmond and Romain. Their son died of typhoid fever in Spain, and their daughter married Lawrence Tunure, whose father had a branch bank in France. While in Egypt for his health, Tunure died. Later Romain Stone Tunure married an Englishman, Lord Munson, Governor General of Egypt.

John S. Minard's "Civil History of Cuba," 1853, comments: "Few men have done more to develop the wealth of Allegany county than Mr. Stone (Ithiel). And he has reared a family of children who are a credit to his good name and an honor to the state...he has always been considered a model in morals and honor, strictly temperate in his habits and conscientious in all his dealings..."

How and where Cornelia Stone and Albert Porter met is not recorded in Indiana or New York libraries. Irene H. Crowley, Altoona, Pennsylvania, former editor of the Cuba, N.Y. Patriot, writes, "Years ago the late Mrs. Bernice Utter, then town historian, and I made a study of the old families and their homes on South Street in Cuba.

"Mrs. Utter and I were next door neighbors across the street from the former Stone home at the corner of South and Stone streets (Stone Street obviously was named for the Ithiel Stone family).

"What information we gained was added to Mrs. Utter's record as historian, and if memory serves me right we considered the Stone file unfinished because authentic data was difficult to find. I doubt if we had a photo of Cornelia, although I do remember writing some details of her life and the fact she was married to Mr. Porter.''

Mrs. Utter died about 1966, according to Mrs. Crowley, and her husband would not part with the records because he considered them personal papers. Mr. Utter who is elderly still lives in the home which belonged to his family for generations.

''My son, David H. Crowley, mayor of the village and publisher of the Cuba Patriot until last year, lives next door to Mr. Utter, and he told me he might 'catch Mr. Utter in a good mood' and ask him to hunt the historical records,'' Mrs. Crowley said.

Much has been recorded about Porter, the 19th governor of Indiana and the second native Hoosier to hold the office of chief executive.

He was born at Lawrenceburg, Indiana, April 20, 1824, the son of a bank cashier and county recorder. He and his brother helped their father operate a ferry between Lawrenceburg and the Kentucky shore to earn money to attend Hanover College.

Albert ran out of money before completing work at Hanover, and his uncle helped him with expenses at Indiana Asbury University (now DePauw University) at Greencastle, where he was graduated in 1843. He then studied law in Lawrenceburg, moved to Indianapolis in 1844 and was admitted to the bar. He served as city attorney, was private secretary to Governor James Whitcomb, reporter of the Indiana Supreme Court and eventually a Supreme Court Judge, elected on the Democratic ticket.

During the controversy over repeal of the Missouri Compromise in 1854, Porter joined the newly formed Republican party. He went to Congress from 1858 to 1862 as a Republican.

Porter then retired from politics and spent 14 years in professional and business life — establishing himself as a well-known attorney and building a personal fortune. In 1877, he was appointed comptroller of the U.S.

An accomplished speaker and knowledgeable politican, he won the 1880 gubernatorial election on the Republican ticket over Franklin Landers. Porter had the support of labor which he had backed in the 1877 railroad strike.

In Indianapolis, Cornelia and Albert Porter lived in a three-story residence at 501 North Tennessee Street (between 9th and 10th Streets on North Capitol Avenue). Gables, dormers, turrets and gingerbread grill work added decorative touches to the large brick house.

As the Governor's wife, Cornelia is said to have presided over social affairs with charm and graciousness. She was at ease with guests and was well informed on events of the day.

Whether she met Indianapolis' May Wright Sewall, founder of the International Council of Women and leader in the Equal Rights Society, is not known. Correspondence and other papers of Cornelia were not saved; and when she was First Lady, either no one asked questions about her interest in administrative affairs or her answers were not published or filed.

Porter's administration had the Kankakee and other marshlands drained, adding some 800,000 acres of land to Indiana. The state board of health was created during his term, and state hospitals for the insane were built at Logansport, Richmond and Evansville.

The legislature introduced the metropolitan police board system in many of Indiana's larger cities. A proposed constitutional amendment giving the legislature power to stop the sale of liquor was killed in 1883.

Porter nominated Benjamin Harrison for President at the Republican national convention in 1888, and the former governor served as U.S. minister to Italy from 1889 to 1892.

Cornelia lived only a little more than a year after Porter completed his term as governor. She was buried in Crown Hill Cemetery at 3 p.m. May 20, 1886.

After retirement from government offices, Porter began collecting material for a history of Indiana, but he did not complete his work. He died in Indianapolis May 3, 1897, and is buried in Crown Hill.

Descendants of Albert Gallatin Porter and his first wife, Minerva V. Brown, are traced by the Lawrenceburg Public Library and by two nieces.

Mrs. Mark Pangborn, Indianapolis, a niece, in her 94th year at this writing, and Mrs. Mark Pangborn Jr., Bethesda, Maryland, a great niece, confirm these records:

Children of Albert and Minerva Porter:

Omer, who became a Chicago merchant.

Edward B., who at one time was a cashier at the Indiana National Bank in Indianapolis.

George T., an Indianapolis lawyer.

Albert R., a professor in Armour Institute, Chicago.

Annie, wife of August L. Mason, an Indianapolis lawyer.

None of these survive, according to Indiana records. When George T. Porter died, The Indianapolis News, May 4, 1927, listed three nieces as survivors: Mrs. Mark Pangborn, Indianapolis; Mrs. Gordon Varney, Florida; Mrs. Frank R. Jelleff, Indianapolis.

Mary Ann James Hovey

(1889 - 1891)

(She died before governor took office)

Just as books about First Ladies of the United States include the story of Martha Jefferson, wife of Thomas Jefferson, this book would not be complete without information about Mary Ann James Hovey, wife of Alvin Peterson Hovey, 20th governor of Indiana.

Both women died before their husbands were inaugurated, and, in each case, a daughter served as her father's official hostess. Patsy (Martha) Randolph was Jefferson's hostess, and Esther Menzies officiated for Hovey.

A high school dream came true for Alvin P. Hovey in 1844 when he went from Indiana to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to marry Mary Ann James, daughter of Posey County residents who had moved to the Pelican capital to "engage in mercantile pursuits."

Hovey had spent three years studying law, was admitted to the Posey County bar in 1843 and was regarded as one of the best read young men in southern Indiana.

According to his autobiography, in 1844 he was convinced "that life might be more interesting if joys and sorrows could be shared with a companion."

Hovey and Mary Ann James, 19-year-old daughter of the Enoch Jameses, were married in 1844 in Baton Rouge, the city about which he wrote "where fragrance of creamy magnolias, once experienced, is never forgotten."

"The lovely picture of my great grandparents in a miniature is a family treasure," Mrs. T. Conlin Alexander, Indianapolis, said of a photo taken soon after their marriage.

"They were dressed beautifully. Her face had so much character, and, as always, he carried a white handkerchief," Mrs. Alexander observed. "Whereas in later years men placed neatly folded handkerchiefs in their pockets, Grandfather always carried his in his hand.

"He must have been a romantic person; he wrote many sentimental poems to and about Grandmother," the great-granddaughter said. "His autobiography tells much about his early life."

Because the War of 1812 brought many hardships to New England states, Abiel and Frances Hovey with their five children left Massachusetts and sought more fertile fields on the banks of the Ohio River near Mount Vernon, Indiana. Two more children were born there.

Alvin Peterson Hovey, the youngest, was born in a log cabin September 6, 1821. His father died before the child's second birthday, and his mother died when he was 15. For several months he worked in a small general store. During his few leisure hours he read English poetry. His interest in reading and writing was encouraged by a teacher, author of an English grammar book, who opened a high school in the village.

"There were nearly 100 boys and girls between the ages of eight and 20," Hovey wrote in his school journal. "Here, the first tender emotions of my heart were awakened by a dark-eyed, fair-looking child four years my junior. As I look back at her now, as she stood in the old school room — white panties — sky blue dress a little below the knee, lustrous eyes — pale face — light brown hair — coral lips — with her slender, frail form, and voice of band-like music, I ask myself whether even angels could be more beautiful than that fairy-like child."

"Anna Lowry, born in the South, had but recently become a member of our village. Her father had accumulated considerable property in Louisiana. . . and had been advised for the health of two children, to move to another climate."

Descendants of Govenor Hovey said they believed Anna Lowry referred to was Mary Ann James. Her mother's maiden name was Lowry."

Enoch R. James, the father of Mary Ann James Hovey, was born in Kentucky July 4, 1800, the son of Samuel and Frances James, both natives of Virginia. In 1816, Enoch came to Posey County, Indiana, and later went to Louisiana where there was an abundance of trade on the Mississippi River.

His wife, Esther Lowry (Mother of Mary Ann James Hovey), was a native of Maryland. Mary Ann's mother died on June 21, 1849, five years after the Hovey-James wedding.

"Our family records indicate that the marriage was a very happy one," according to Mrs. Alexander, a great granddaughter, and her sister, Mrs. Walter Gillespie of Williamsport. "But there were sad times, too."

When the couple returned from Louisiana to Mount Vernon, Hovey soon became known for his legal work in a noted Indiana case. He ousted the executors of the William MacClure estate in a fight to uphold the will of the New Harmony educational reformer who bequeathed libraries for the working man. Hovey became administrator for the eccentric philanthropist.

At home, Mary Ann was busy with a family and myriad duties. Five children were born, but three died in childhood.

Esther, born January 8, 1846, married Major Gustavus Varsa Menzies on November 11, 1869, in New York City.

Enoch James, born February 7, 1848, died at the age of six.

Charles James, born January 8, 1850, became a banker, justice of the peace and twice postmaster of Mount Vernon. He married Lillie Jacques, a native of Poseyville, on March 16, 1871, in Evansville.

Mary, born January 13, 1854, died on March 30, 1855.

Mary Ann, born April 1, 1857, died April 7, 1858.

"The deaths of the three children brought much sadness to the home, but the most tragic death was that of one of the little Marys — we never have known which one," Mrs. Alexander said. "The nursemaid had the baby out by a well, and accidentally dropped the child in the well. There was no way to rescue the baby.

"For a while, we have been told, there were two little graves for these babies, and later there was a double grave."

Mary Ann Hovey died when she was 38 years old.

In 1865, when Alvin Hovey was 44 years old, he married Rosa Alice Smith Carey, a widow and daughter of the Caleb Smiths of Indiana, in Grace Church, New York. Mrs. Carey's father was a member of Lincoln's cabinet, and his home in Indianapolis was on New York Street across from Military Park. It was razed during the 1970s for the construction of Indiana University - Purdue University buildings.

"Grandfather and Rosa started on what was intended to be a happy honeymoon to Lima, Peru, where he had been appointed by President

Grant as minister," Mrs. Alexander recalled from family history. "Rosa died on board the ship."

Despite shock and sadness, Hovey within a short time began his duties in Lima.

His daughter, Esther Hovey Menzies, went to Peru to be his hostess at the American Legation. She had been educated in Eastern finishing schools, was known for beauty and dignity, and, her great-niece recalled, was known as a "raving beauty." She became the toast of Lima.

After five years, Hovey returned to his Mount Vernon, Indiana, home to resume law practice. His friends attempted to persuade him to run for the 1872 Republican nomination for governor, but Hovey refused.

He already had served in the Mexican War, as a member of the Indiana Constitutional Convention of 1850 and later as circuit court judge. He was Indiana Supreme Court judge one year and United States district attorney two years. He ran for Congress on the Republican ticket in 1858 and lost. He was commissioned major general in 1864 at the end of a distinguished military career during the Civil War.

In 1886 he was elected to Congress, and governor in 1888.

Hovey's inauguration was marked by elegance.

The ball was in the English Hotel on the Circle, and notable guests included President-elect and Mrs. Benjamin Harrison.

The men were elected the same day — on the same ticket — and the ball was in celebration of both victories.

Essie Hovey Menzies' gown — now property of the Evansville Museum of Art — was "beautifully designed of creamy silk," according to a description by Mrs. Alexander. The gown was given to the Mount Vernon museum by Mrs. Menzies' grandson, the late Lloyd Menzies Fitzhugh. When the Mount Vernon institution closed, the gown was taken to Evansville and presented to the Museum by Fitzhugh and Juliette Hambley.

"It was in bad condition, but we hope it can be refurbished," Patricia Sides, museum registrar, said.

Photographs of Mrs. Menzies are at the Evansville Museum. She was her father's hostess throughout his term as governor.

Mrs. Alexander has a marble and gold clock which was a gift from Governor Hovey to his future daughter-in-law, Lillie Jacques who married Charles James Hovey, Mrs. Alexander's grandfather. Mrs. Gillespie has a gold leaf mirror which also was given to Lillie Hovey.

"My late husband and I, on a cruise to Lima, soon realized where our great-grandfather found such special interest in gold leaf," Mrs.

Alexander said. "We saw elegant pieces in all the state buildings there, and in so many beautiful sites in the city. He learned to love that elegance and to appreciate it."

In tribute to her great-grandfather, Mrs. Alexander treasures clippings, biographies in various books and reference works and momentoes which Governor Hovey left for his family.

"I remember the description of greetings at the gubernatorial inauguration," she said. "Although some people shook hands with both hands and 'pumped'. . . Governor Hovey greeted people with great grace and dignity."

Hovey's administration was notable for the passage of election reform laws. The 1889 legislature adopted the "Australian" or secret, written form of voting ballot, made the State Board of Education responsible for the selection of school textbooks and established the State Board of Tax Commissioners.

During Hovey's term, on August 22, 1889, President Harrison visited Indianapolis to help lay the cornerstone of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument.

Hovey died before the end of his term, in Indianapolis on November 23, 1891. He was interred in Bellefountaine Cemetery at Mount Vernon.

Rhoda J. Castle Chase

(1891 - 1893)

Her life spanned nearly a century. She lived through six wars, two depressions, smallpox and influenza epidemics and for 60 years was blind.

But Rhoda J. Castle Chase had great strength, and instead of complaining, her philosophy embodied a spirit of cheerful yesterdays and confident tomorrows.

She was a member of a family which helped to build a nation. Her great-great-grandfather, Henry Castle, came to America from England in 1635, settling in Connecticut. Her great-grandfather, Phineas Castle, was a captain in the Connecticut militia, serving in the French and Indian wars and later in the War of the Revolution.

Generations of family records are kept by Rhoda Chase's granddaughter, Betty Hampton, retired Muncie, Indiana, teacher, who at five years of age became one of her blind grandmother's helpers. The child sat beside her grandmother, threaded her needle and handed her quilt blocks.

Born at Florence in Oneida County, New York, November 26, 1833, Rhoda was one of five children of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Castle. Black-eyed Rhoda, who had long black hair, was 12 years old when her father announced that the family was going to take a long trip. They would go over land and water to a new home in Illinois, her father said.

Rhoda's older brother, Lester, her sisters, Emily, 14, and Lucy Taylor, 6, and her little brother, Phineas, 2, were excited about the adventure.

"For her mother, leaving country with which she was familiar and going to a newly settled state must have been difficult," Mrs. Hampton commented at her home in Muncie as she looked at the few family keepsakes she inherited.

"Little did this courageous woman guess that the little blue pickle jar she wrapped in a quilt would become a part of Indiana history in the home of a great-granddaughter in Muncie. Packing clothing and furniture, deciding what was essential, thinking of the separation from family and friends must have caused a lump in her throat."

It took 16 days to travel on a propeller boat from Oswego to Chicago.

When Rhoda Castle Chase was 90 years old, she told the story of the trip — as she had many times — when she was honored by the Jackson Street Christian Church at Muncie. The Muncie Star recorded the story November 25, 1923. The nonagenarian, widow of Indiana's 22nd governor, Ira Joy Chase, also recalled other colorful incidents the same day at a family gathering.

On the propeller boat on Lake Erie, the captain allowed Rhoda short turns at the wheel as the boat sloshed slowly past peaceful rural villages. Her brothers and sisters sometimes fed the gulls during the long trip.

At the time of the move, good land within what is now the center of Chicago was available for $1.25 an acre, Rhoda Castle said. Chicago, the chief trading point, was about 30 miles from Palatine, Illinois, which was to be their new home site.

Rhoda's father hired the driver of a buffalo wagon to haul them and their possessions to their new home. During the trip through Chicago, the wagon mired down in the mud; and the buffalo sank into the slosh. The children perched on the back of the wagon, unmindful of the problems.

Once located in the primitive house in Palatine, the children had a two-mile walk through the woods to school. Their mother was apprehensive about dangers in the uncivilized country where Potowatomi Indians were everywhere in the woods.

Rhoda, however, was fearless and led the band of children through the woods.

Months later her father walked 30 miles to Barrington, Illinois (then

Deer Grove), where he rented a log house for the family's home.

Rhoda graduated from Barrington schools and became a teacher for three years. She met a teacher named Ira Chase. He was frail and sensitive, a native of New York who moved with his family to Milan, Ohio, when he was 12. He had a three-year tutored education from Lemuel Bissell, a Presbyterian minister, and he attended Milan Seminary in Ohio and Medina Academy in New York. The Chase family moved to Illinois in 1855.

Ira Chase and Rhoda Castle married in 1859 when he was studying for the ministry. Chase opened a hardware store, hoping for a successful business. But when the Civil War began in 1861, he was one of the first to enlist as chaplain.

Rhoda by then had a baby, and as the days and weeks passed, she waited in vain for mail from Nashville, Tennessee, where her husband was stationed. Finally a letter from the War Department notified her that her husband was critically ill in an Army hospital at Nashville.

She traveled to camp, taking the baby and a few clothes. Army rules prohibited her from staying at camp except for a short visit, and the surgeon bluntly told her that her husband could not live and that she should return home with the baby.

"Sorry — only Army nurses can stay," the commanding officer said. "Lots of men here need nursing care."

"I'd like to enlist as a nurse," Rhoda said.

She was assigned to a big, white-washed room filled with sick and wounded men. Sergeant Ira Joy Chase was one of her patients. He gained strength day by day, but their baby died. While still recuperating, Ira resigned from service, and the couple returned to their home and hardware store.

Soon Rhoda became ill with smallpox to which she had been exposed at camp. Ira nursed her for five months, but she became blind and badly crippled.

She gave birth to five more children but could not see them. She never was able to read again.

Ira turned again to his interest in the ministry and became a preacher in the Disciples of Christ Church. His ministerial work took him and his family to Mishawaka, Indiana, in 1867; LaPorte, Indiana, in 1869; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1871; Peoria, Illinois, in 1872; Wabash, Indiana, in 1880, and Danville, Indiana, in 1884.

Rhoda adjusted to life in darkness, reared their family and participated in church and community activities wherever they lived.

The Chases experienced great sorrow while he was a minister at LaPorte. He was participating in a church meeting at Louisville, Kentucky, where he received a telegram giving news that their little boy, Benny, had died. He went home immediately, realizing, no doubt, that the tragedy for the entire family was yet another major grief for Rhoda. Although blind, she was known for her ability to accept distress and counsel others in time of her own need.

In 1886 while in California on a religious mission, Ira was nominated by Indiana Republicans and elected to Congress from the Fifth Indiana district. He was elected lieutenant governor in 1888; and when Governor Alvin P. Hovey died in 1891, Lt. Gov. Chase became Indiana's 21st governor. He served until 1893.

Governor and Mrs. Chase continued active work in the ministry during his term of office, their granddaughter said.

"During that time he declined to preach for large and influential churches, but preferred to help weak and struggling congregations," Mrs. Hampton explained. "The Olive Branch Christian Church, Indianapolis, was organized as a result of a revival meeting during the time grandfather was governor.

"Grandmother spent much of her time piecing quilts which she gave to friends or donated to churches and benevolent societies," Mrs. Hampton said. "She was a charter member of the Christian Women's Board of Foreign Missions and a member of the Paul Revere Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Women's Franchise League."

Following the death of former Governor Chase in 1896, Rhoda left their home in Danville and moved to Wabash where she and her daughter, Electa, resided until 1906. When Electa married Horace Murphy of Muncie, Rhoda resided with them until her death at 92 in 1926. The last 20 years of her life she was confined to a wheel chair because of a fractured hip, but she continued her church attendance and needlework until a few months before her death.

The Indiana General Assembly had awarded her $100 a month because she was blind as a result of the Civil War.

Funeral services for Mrs. Chase were conducted in the Muncie Jackson Street Christian Church April 30, 1926, with the Rev. Edgar Fay Daughterty in charge.

Burial was in the Chase lot in Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, where Governor Chase is buried.

Martha Whitcomb Matthews

(1893 - 1897)

The early life of Martha Whitcomb Matthews, only daughter of a Hoosier governor to become First Lady of Indiana, has all the pathos, adventure and romance of an Annie Fellows Johnston book.

Her father, Governor James Whitcomb, and her mother, Martha Ann Renick, met as teen-agers in Ohio. Their lives took different paths: his in college, law and politics and hers in marriage to Wesley Hurst.

Year later when James Whitcomb, 51, was in his second term as governor of Indiana, he learned that Martha's husband had died. He had thought about her through the years. He longed for a companion to share busy days and quiet times, and he asked Martha to become his wife.

As previously written in the story of Martha Ann Renick Hurst Whitcomb, they were married in 1846 and lived in the Governor's Mansion in Indianapolis. Family papers confirm they enjoyed both the crowded hours of public appearances and the quiet time at home. They liked long walks, reading and work in the Methodist Church.

Their greatest joy was the birth of their little daughter, Martha Ann, July 7, 1847; but their happiness was short lived.

Martha Whitcomb died 16 days after her daughter's birth.

Saddened and bewildered, Governor Whitcomb reluctantly decided that it would be best for the child to live in the home of her aunt and uncle in Ross County, Ohio — at least for a while.

The Governor placed the baby in the arms of her mother's sister, Mrs. R.R. Seymour of Bainbridge, Ohio.

"Martha sent her to you," he said.

When little Martha was just five years old, her father died. But he had made sure that his 1,200-acre farm and house in Vermillion County near Clinton were deeded to his daughter.

She grew up with a cousin about her age — later Mrs. J.W. Roth — who was like a sister to Martha. Both were lively, attractive girls, leaders among young people. Martha was tall with mischievous dark eyes.

Through the years much of the family history has been told by a great-granddaughter of the Whitcombs — Martha Webster. As the granddaughter of Martha Whitcomb Matthews and Governor Matthews, she remembered many happenings at Hazel Bluff, the beautiful governor's house built in 1840 high on a bluff five miles southwest of Clinton.

The house, of peg construction, was furnished with heavy, intricately carved tables, chairs, chests and beds. The mansion remained in the family until 1961, owned and occupied by Mrs. Webster's mother, Helen Matthews Somerville Krekler. Mrs. Webster's father was James Somerville, Helen Matthews' first husband.

Once when Mrs. Webster's grandmother was ill, James Whitcomb Riley (namesake of Governor Whitcomb) visited her. Riley gave her an autographed first edition of his poems and wrote on the fly leaf, 'God smiled and it was morning . . .'

At 94 years of age in 1982, feeble and in a nursing home in Clinton, Martha Webster said she regretted that many family papers, letters and other keepsakes were lost. When the last of the Matthews family moved from Hazel Bluff, records were stored in an heirloom chest of drawers. The family neglected to go back and get the chest, Mrs. Webster lamented, and she does not know what happened to it.

Sketches of Claude Matthews in the Historical Records of Vermillion County and in The Indianapolis Star, December 20, 1933, tell of the first meeting of Martha and Claude. He was 16, and she was 14 years old.

Claude was born in Bath County, Kentucky, December 14, 1845. His parents, Thomas A. and Eliza Ann Fletcher Matthews, were born and reared in Kentucky. The Matthews family moved there from Maryland, and the Fletcher family from Virginia.

The parents of Claude Matthews died in Kentucky: His mother at the home of their plantation in March, 1846, age 20, and his father at Covington in 1885, age 66.

Claude, their only child, was taught to take care of horses, cattle and 500 mules, although there were overseers, trainers, groomsmen and servants on the plantation.

During the Civil War, Claude's father heard rumors that General John Morgan planned to raid his farm and take the stand of 500 fine mules. To outwit the Confederate Army, Thomas Matthews decided to move the mules to Ross County, Ohio, to the farm of friends.

Instead of sending some of the veteran trainers, Matthews decided to trust his 16-year-old son, who was 6 feet tall, capable and industrious, on the long trip. Matthews discussed the trip with his son, cautioning him to use back roads as much as possible and to be wary of Confederate spies along the way.

The trip with the mules proved to be more than an exciting adventure and a tremendous responsibility for the youth.

In Ohio, he met his future wife. He was invited to the homes of families with substantial holdings and in one of these he met pretty Martha Whitcomb.

The two soon found many common interests, including horseback riding. Even though they were very young, they made plans for their future together.

The threat of a Confederate raid for mules passed, and Claude's father wrote letters telling his son to return to Kentucky. Martha rode alongside Claude several miles as he finally started his homeward journey on horseback.

Then she persuaded her aunt and uncle that she should be allowed to enroll in a private school for girls at Danville, Kentucky, in the fall. Claude attended Centre College at Danville, Kentucky, and graduated in the class of 1867.

On January 1, 1868, Claude Matthews and Martha Ann Whitcomb were married.

To Martha's 1,200 acres of rich farm land in Vermillion County, her young husband added 800 acres, and the two established a home marked by gentility of a plantation and the simplicity of an Indiana farm.

The acreage included bottom table and ridge lands, with timber and coal in abundance. Matthews had more than 1,300 acres of bottom and timber land under cultivation. These acres were unexcelled in quality of soil. He also had large real estate interests in Texas.

The homestead, on which the stately home was built, consisted of over 600-acres, and the imposing two-story structure was in a natural grove overlooking a valley and Brouillet's Creek.

Mrs. William Reed, the first woman attorney in Vermillion County and wife of a former Clinton mayor, has collected much material about the Whitcomb and Matthews families from biographical and historical records of Vermillion County published by the Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, in 1888.

Mrs. Reed's grandfather worked for Matthews — clearing, measuring the timber-cut wood and helping with the vast amount of work on the large acreage at Hazel Bluff.

"Sometimes he took my father along," Mrs. Reed said. "My father said the workers all ate in the kitchen with the Matthewses. He recalled that the master bed was made of timber from the place, and that it was beautifully carved, very large and fastened to the floor."

Mrs. Reed was in classes at school with Martha Webster's sister — both daughters of Helen (Matthews) Sommerville Krekler.

The Matthewses had four children born at Hazel Bluff.

They were Mary Fletcher, born November 5, 1869; Renick Seymour, January 4, 1872, and Helen, February 28, 1878. One child died when 18 months old.

Mary became the wife of Ewing Cortez of Greensburg, June 18, 1890; Helen married James L. Somerville, September 25, 1900. Following a divorce, Helen married Albert Krekler. Renick Seymour died as a young man while connected with the Smithsonian Institution.

Descendants in 1982 include Martha Webster, granddaughter of the Matthewses and her two children: Charles Webster, McLean, Virginia, a retired Marine colonel, now a real estate dealer, who married Joan Coleman, Bloomington; and Martha Ann Webster, Newburgh, Indiana, affiliated with Mead-Johnson International Co. at Evansville.

In 1876 Matthews began his political life when he was elected to a term in the Indiana State House of Representatives, the first Democrat to represent Vermillion County. He pointed with pride to passage of the free gravel road bill which improved highways.

He was an unsuccessful candidate for a State Senate seat in 1882, but was nominated for secretary of state when the Farmers' Alliance came to power. He served as secretary of state from 1891 to 1893. The governorship came to Matthews via the 1892 election, and he served from 1893 to 1897.

Martha and Claude were reluctant to give up their quiet life at Hazel Bluff, but they moved to Indianapolis, confident that their obligation to serve the state came first.

There were many worries for Martha as her husband became governor. The country was in the midst of a depression, and there were strikes of railroad workers in Hammond. All rail traffic was halted until Matthews ordered the state militia to seize the property and restore order.

He also was plagued with a fight over "winter racing" and prize fighting when Chicago businessmen purchased land in Lake County to build a race track and prize-fight ring. The courts stood behind Matthews when he threatened to use the state militia to stop either use of the area.

Matthews was mentioned as a candidate for the 1896 presidency. He was host to the 1893 encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in Indianapolis. A total of 60,000 Union Veterans attended, and many leaders of the war, including General Lew Wallace, author of ''Ben Hur,'' were featured in a parade on September 4.

Known for her grace and charm, Martha Matthews took no part in the political disputes during her husband's term as governor. She remained calm and hospitable as she carried on her duties as official hostess for Indiana.

Matthews had a stroke while speaking at an old settlers' meeting at Veedersburg, and he died three days later on August 28, 1898.

Martha Matthews died in 1912 at Hazel Bluff. Both are buried at Clinton.

Kate Boyd Mount

(1897 - 1901)

If she had lived in the late 20th century, she might have written a widely-read newspaper column on finance, family, farm or church.

Kate Boyd Mount was a spokesman for free enterprise, education, civic leadership, farm management and the importance of home and church.

She was Indiana's First Lady, the wife of Governor James A. Mount (1897 to 1901).

Described as an enchanting teen-ager, Catherine Boyd had advantages that stemmed from a background of aristocracy and business achievement. Born in Thorntown, Indiana, in 1849, she was the daughter of Samuel R. Boyd and Rebecca Jane Nesbit Boyd.

The Boyds were descended from the Patterson family which established the National Cash Register Company in Dayton, Ohio. The family originally came from Scotland, and their crest was inscribed: "For the King and the People." The family tree lists Revolutionary War heroes, and the colonial home with its 2,038 acres was deeded to the city of Dayton for civic and cultural purposes.

Family records, letters and pictures are preserved by Mrs. Charles E. Kuonen, Indianapolis, Mrs. Mount's great-granddaughter.

The greatest sorrow of Catherine's life occurred when she was 10 years old. Her father and eldest brother died within one week. But even this tragedy had no lasting scar, for her mother would not allow pain to linger in the family's pursuit of happiness and contribution to society. The child was shown how to look to tomorrow.

Family members were knowledgeable in both practical and professional fields, and they were reared in the philosophy of responsibility and credibility, Mrs. Kuonen said.

At 14, in 1864, Kate entered the Lebanon (Indiana) Presbyterian Academy, from which she was graduated in 1867.

James A. Mount, son of Atwell Mount and Lucinda Fullenwider Mount, Montgomery County farmers, entered the academy as soon as he was mustered out of the Seventy-Second Indiana Infantry (1862 - 1865) where he served in the Civil War with distinction. At 21 he was the first member of Sherman's army to cross the Chattahoohee River at Roswell, Georgia, during Sherman's march to the sea.

His school privileges previous to the war were meager. His attendance was confined to periods of the worst weather in winter when farm work was suspended. His parents had come to Indiana from Kentucky in 1828, built a log cabin in the unbroken forest and lived a life of toil and privation.

He had 11 brothers and sisters, and their mother spun wool for their jackets and stockings. Thrift and honesty were subjects often discussed as the family gathered together when all the chores were done.

Kate was interested in the new young man in school, and Mrs. Kuonen said a story handed down through the years was that Kate dropped her lace-trimmed handkerchief as she passed by James' seat. When he picked up the handkerchief, she asked if he would help her with Latin.

They found many common interests from that time on, especially their love of farm life, flowers and trees. James completed two years of credits in one year, and he and Kate were married the following year — November 13, 1867, in the home of Kate's widowed mother.

With little money, they rented a shabby three-room house on a farm stocked and supplied with implements. Their humble beginning would have discouraged less courageous people. They soon combined their talents and decided they could became successful farmers.

The little house became attractive inside as Kate added a picture here, a hand-loomed coverlet there, and, in summer, fresh flowers which she grew alongside cabbages and turnips.

They worked hard clearing the land, but the rent plan was discouraging because they had to pay half of the money from the sale of all grain and stock.

Perseverance was the keynote of their philosophy. They managed well; and at the end of seven years, they owned all their own stock and implements and paid rent in cash. Kate added hand-stitched curtains and a few pieces of refinished furniture to make the house more colorful and comfortable.

Three years later they owned the farm. In 28 years they owned 500 acres and built a beautiful farm home complete with dormers and an impressive array of porches ornamented with gingerbread and fancy pillars.

Mrs. Kuonen has photographs of the big house and memories of visiting her grandparents, Charles and Harriet Lee Mount Butler, who inherited the house on Willow Dale farm.

Mount became a wise farmer, and his wife an excellent homemaker and a superb manager.

The couple realized that many improved farm methods of which they had learned could help other families live a more fruitful life. Both James and Kate Mount were asked to give lectures before farm groups and to share their experience with hundreds of people.

In records preserved by Mrs. Kuonen are dozens of letters asking for speech commitments for Mrs. Mount before the Indiana Farmers Institute and other organizations.

One, signed by W.A. Latta, superintendent of the institutes under the auspices of the Purdue University School of Agriculture, apologized for asking Mrs. Mount to speak "to two series of institutes the same week." The letter continues, "I congratulate you, however, on being chosen to serve in two simultaneous series of meetings."

Latta suggested that she "go to Jackson, Orange and Washington counties instead of to Adams, Grant and Wabash."

Another letter from Samuel Hargrove of Princeton, officer of the Agricultural Implements, Carriage, Buggies, Carts, Wagons, Hogs, Cattle and All Kinds of Seeds (Strain and Co.) asked Mrs. Mount: "Can you read two papers at our institute January 13 - 14 (letter written November 21, 1891) on "The Home and Woman's Place Therein — Mistakes and Possibilities of Rural Life"?

She agreed to that engagement and many more. In February, 1892, she attended sessions of the Vigo County Farmer's Institute at the Terre Haute Court House, with her husband who spoke on "Advantages of the World's Fair to Indiana."

Mrs. Mount is credited with prompting women to organize their own association of the Indiana Farm Bureau.

She continued to be a leader of brilliant young intellectuals and to encourage volunteerism of women in their communities and churches.

She was in demand as a speaker before women's groups. She wore pince-nez glasses and sailed briskly down church aisles smiling to the right and to the left as she mounted the pulpit where she talked on such subjects as, "Economy, Its Uses and Abuses," "The Home and Woman's Place Therein," and "Convenience and Architecture."

Both Kate and James Mount had great interest in maintenance of literary societies and the improvement of environments of country homes. They felt their calling a noble one and were always ready to praise the blessings of farm life.

"It has been affirmed by an able author that 'if there were no homes on earth, we would not be able to believe in Heaven'," Mrs. Mount began one of her talks on "The Home and Its Relation to Christianity."

"What word thrills us with more pleasant memories or inspires us with more zeal in our own plans for the future than this place called home?" she asked.

Again and again she emphasized the relationship between the home and the church. One of her papers was on "All Is Not Gold That Glitters," and in teaching parents about children she reminded her audience that "As a twig is bent so will the tree incline."

For 13 years Mrs. Mount was teacher of the primary class of the Bethel Sabbath School. Since there was no missionary society, she organized her family into the "Mount Family Mission Band." Each member was taught about the various mission fields; and they were encouraged to give something, however small, to mission boards.

In addition to Mrs. Butler, the Mounts' other children were Rev. Harry N. Mount, Presbyterian minister, with pastorates in various areas including Eugene, Oregon, and his twin, Helen Mount Nicely, wife of Rev. John Nicely, professor of English literature and treasurer of the Syrian Protestant College at Beirut, Syria.

Mrs. Mount was an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and proud of her great-grandfather, Robert Patterson, a soldier in Colonial, Revolutionary and Indiana wars, and her grandfather, James Nesbit, a captain in the War of 1812.

The country life Kate Mount loved so much was put on hold temporarily when James was elected 23rd governor of Indiana.

The 1896 Republican state convention chose Mount from among 12 other aspirants for the party's gubernatorial candidacy. Mount had served as state senator, elected in 1888.

During the race for governor, he made some 130 speeches in four months, many of them against free silver, the issue that dominated the election. The evening following his election as governor, a large caravan of carriages and riders on horseback followed him home, blowing horns and waving banners and torches.

Kate Mount found great interest in the series of sweeping laws which were adopted during her husband's term as governor. Because the governor's early schooling was squeezed into moments when he wasn't needed to help on his parents' Montgomery County farm, he influenced the 1897 Indiana Legislature to pass the state's first compulsory education law.

The entire state prison system was remodeled as were laws regulating child employment in factories. Inspections of safety facilities in industry were begun, and a medical board was set up to examine applicants to practice medicine. Industry grew in the state.

The Mounts lived at the Dennison Hotel and in Woodruff Place while he was governor — 1897 - 1901.

As First Lady, Mrs. Mount performed social and civic duties with unaffected grace and dignity as she had always done at her farm home.

She never called her husband, Governor, always a modest "Mr. Mount." She said she measured men and women for their selves, not superficial qualities.

One of the most elegant occasions which occurred during the Mount years in office was the wedding of their daughter, Helen Nesbit Mount, Coates College graduate, and Rev. John Nicely in the First Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis.

For an hour following the ceremony, the two large parlors and broad entrance of the Propylaeum were thronged with guests at a reception at which Governor and Mrs. Mount were hosts.

Mrs. Mount wore a handsome gown of steel gray satin, trimmed with pink and gray chiffon and pink satin and duchesse lace. The bride and bridegroom received under a canopy of smilax. Palms and white lillies adorned the parlors.

Assisting in hospitalities were Mrs. Charles W. Fairbanks, Mrs. John C. New, Mrs. James R. Carnahan, Mrs. E.B. Noel, Mrs. John L. Giffiths and Mrs. Alvin T. Hert. An orchestra played during the reception.

In his last address as governor, James Mount said, "This is the happiest day of my life. . . we are going back home to our beloved Shannondale farm, 'Willow Brook'."

Governor Mount died two weeks after he retired from office — on January 16, 1901. He is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, near Crawfordsville.

Mrs. Mount continued to live in the family home 10 miles northeast of Crawfordsville until a few days before her death following surgery in an Indianapolis sanitorium. She died July 6, 1905, and is buried alongside her husband.

Bertha McCullough Durbin

(1901 - 1905)

When Bertha McCullough Durbin died at 92, she had combined years of affluent family heritage with praiseworthy service in church, state and women's affairs. Her work was achieved so quietly that little mention of it was made in newspapers or magazines.

She was daughter of Neel C. and Marie Edgerle McCullough. She was born September 3, 1853, in Muncie, and in early childhood moved to Anderson with her parents. Her father was a banker and owned extensive property in Anderson.

She graduated in 1874 from Oxford (Ohio) College — now Miami University.

Winfield Taylor Durbin, 24th governor and a soldier in three wars, was born at Lawrenceburg, Indiana, May 4, 1847. His parents were William Sappington and Eliza Ann Sparks Durbin. His great-grandfather, native of Havre de Grace, Maryland, was a pioneer settler in Kentucky.

When a child, the future governor moved with his parents to New Philadelphia, Indiana, where his father built and operated a tannery. He attended common school there.

In 1862 when only 15 years old he enlisted in the Union Army — the youngest of seven brothers to serve during the Civil War. He first joined the 16th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment, but was not mustered because of an arm injury. Durbin later helped to organize Company K, 139th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and refused a commission on the plea he would rather serve in the ranks.

He taught school in Washington and Jackson counties after the war and then enrolled in a commercial college in St. Louis. In October, 1869, he went to Indianapolis where he worked for Murphy, Johnston & Co., a wholesale dry goods firm. After four years, he moved to Anderson where he met Bertha McCullough.

The couple married October 6, 1875.

He worked for his father-in-law as a banker and engaged in independent operations as a manufacturer. The Durbins lived in a large, three-story house. They had two children, Marie, who died at the age of nine, and Fletcher, who graduated from a military school at Lawrence, New Jersey.

Mrs. Durbin became accustomed to political life when her husband was a member of the Republican state committee from 1890 to 1897. He was a delegate to the Republican national convention in 1892, and in 1896 he was named a member of the Republican national committee from Indiana.

Durbin was appointed colonel of the Indiana volunteer regiment in the Spanish-American War; and after his return from Cuba in 1900, he was elected governor.

As chief of state, he attacked the conditions of highways, pointing out that the state's industrial growth and movement from the farms to cities necessitated better highways and more state regulation of automobiles. He also took a firm stand against lynching.

As First Lady, living in Indianapolis, Mrs. Durbin entertained a great deal; and her gatherings were events of unusual note, according to a story reprinted in The Star Magazine from a 1900 news story "Col. W.T. Durbin's Guiding Star."

"She has had every opportunity for culture and not only availed herself of them but has kept pace with her husband in every respect.

"She has traveled extensively abroad and has been in all parts of this continent," the story continued... "She is well informed and an interesting conversationalist."

Mrs. Durbin was a member of the Indianapolis Propylaeum, a center for literary, artistic, social, charitable or religious clubs. A group of women in 1890 formed a corporation to erect the building which was dedicated January 27, 1891. It became self-supporting immediately. The building was removed when the War Memorial was constructed, but a residence on Delaware Street was acquired in 1923 and continues as a center of culture.

The governor's wife also was a member of the First Methodist Church and Edgerle Club at Anderson and the Indianapolis Woman's Club.

The family returned to Anderson in 1905, and Colonel Durbin engaged in business there many years.

Durbin ran for governor again in 1912, but he lost to Samuel M. Ralston. He was a devoted Knights Templar member and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

He died a millionaire December 18, 1928, at Anderson. He is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis.

The former First Lady continued an active life at Anderson; and when she was 80, she went on a trip around the world.

She died September 26, 1945, at her home, 1003 Jackson Street, Anderson. Burial was in Crown Hill Cemetery.

Surviving were her son, Fletcher Durbin, Chicago; a granddaughter, Mrs. Prentice Porter of Virginia; and a grandson, Winfield T. Durbin, Chicago attorney. The grandson later lived at La Jolla, California.

Eva Augusta Rachel Simmer Hanly

(1905 - 1909)

“She must have been a vivacious, talented young woman, for even in her 80s she had great strength of character as she read to my sister and me.”

With these words Harry H. Garman, grandson of Eva Augusta Rachel Simmer Hanly, wife of Governor J. Frank Hanly, recalled cherished family experiences.

“I remember her well,” said the retired development supervisor of Indiana Bell Telephone Company. “Her love of books and history prompted my interest in reading, and she always had new stories of early days that made me want to get things done.

“She sat in her favorite rocking chair in the front parlor of the family home at 2062 North Meridian Street in Indianapolis. The house is no longer there — a parking lot for Citizens Gas Company replaced it — but I still recall her stories of the struggles she and grandfather had when they lived ‘on the land’ near Williamsport,” he added.

“Grandmother was born on a farm near Williamsport, Indiana, on July 17, 1860, and she met grandfather when his family moved there several years later from Champaign County, Illinois.”

Mrs. Hanly's father, Peter Simmer, was born in Germany on October 10, 1826, and came to the United States in 1848. He fought for the Union in the Civil War and sustained permanent injury from a wound.

Garman said Mrs. Hanly's mother, Sarah Emma Day, was of English - Irish - Scotch ancestry. Her family came to Indiana from the Carolinas by way of Ohio where she was born March 6, 1837.

Governor Hanly's parents were Elijah and Anna Calton Hanly. His father was a cooper by trade, and his ancestors came from Ireland. His mother was born in North Carolina. The couple settled in Illinois following their marriage.

J. Frank Hanley was born in a log cabin April 4, 1863, near St. Joseph, Champaign County, Illinois. His mother taught him the alphabet and how to spell words. When he was six years old, his father purchased a "History of the Civil War," one of the few books the family owned. The boy spelled out the words and learned the lines by heart.

"Grandfather said many years later that he found inspiration, patriotism and love of country from that book," Garman said. "I was just five years old when he died, and I didn't get to talk to him 'man to man', but I remember that he quoted Lincoln.

"Grandmother told us about his humble beginnings and his struggle to get ahead. He went to country schools a few weeks each year; and when he was 16, he walked to Williamsport where he sawed wood and dug ditches when land owners first began drainage. His small earnings helped to support his family, but somehow he saved enough to attend Danville, Illinois, Normal School. While he worked alongside farmers, he became known as a debater," Garman said. "Years later debating became one of his greatest talents. He soon was known as a speaker with ability and a politician of strength."

Looking through boxes of photographs and "almost completed" family genealogy, Garman showed pictures of his grandparents soon after their marriage in 1881.

"By today's standards, she might have been described as a model — a cover girl," he said.

"She was 5 feet 11 inches tall with black hair and eyes and a vivacious smile," he added. "She was said to have aristocratic bearing. She certainly showed composure during their early married life and on into the political years."

Garman said his grandfather taught school during a few winter months when children were not needed on farms, and then he peddled sewing machines through western Indiana and eastern Illinois.

"He wrote postcards to grandmother telling her of his progress. Sometimes he had good luck, and other times he wrote that sales were bad.

"Meanwhile, he attracted the attention of Judge Rabb at Williamsport and studied law at night. After much study, he was admitted to the bar in 1889 in Warren County and began the practice of law in Williamsport.

Home duties for Eva increased with the birth of children.

They were:

Ethel E., born July 24, 1882; married Harry O. Garman, December 19, 1904; died May 13, 1966.

Lyle Alice, born in 1883 and died 1884.

Owen Pugh, born August 29, 1886; died October 26, 1891.

Inda May, born September 13, 1888; died at birth.

Cecil Rabb, born September 24, 1895; died March 7, 1899.

"There was little medication in those days, and diptheria and other contagious diseases caused death of many children," Garman said. "My grandparents had only one child who lived to maturity."

In 1890 Hanly was elected to the state senate, and in 1894 he won a congressional seat. In 1898 he opened a law practice at Lafayette after losing the Republican nomination to the United States Senate to Albert J. Beveridge.

In 1904 Hanly earned an 85,000-vote majority to defeat the Democratic nominee, John W. Kern, for governor.

"Many people in that day commented that grandfather's campaign was the greatest ever waged by a candidate for office," his grandson recalled. "He traveled thousands of miles in buggies, automobiles, carriages, trolley cars and steam cars. He made more than 150 speeches. He had a wonderful voice which could be heard by crowds indoors or out in the open.

"He had accepted the nomination from the porch of their home in Lafayette," Garman said. "Then following election and inauguration January 9, 1905, he and grandmother lived in a house at 13th and Alabama Streets, Indianapolis. There was no governor's residence at that time."

The Hanlys both were active in the Methodist Church; and as governor he crusaded against liquor, horse racing and political corruption. He prosecuted some members of his own administration for embezzlement.

During Hanly's governorship, the Girls' School at Clermont and the cow barn at the Indiana State Fairgrounds were built.

In 1914 Hanly organized the Flying Squadron, a prohibition lecture group that toured the United States in 235 days with 15 nationally known speakers. Hanly was president of the squadron from 1917 to 1920. He published the National Enquirer, a prohibitionist newspaper, in Indianapolis in 1915.

He ran as Prohibition party candidate in the 1916 presidential election against Woodrow Wilson and Charles Evans Hughes.

He was president of a veneer and lumber company from 1908 to 1920, and he was the author of several books, including ''My Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,'' and ''The Siskiyous.''

The Hanlys lived in a fashionable three-story home following their political years. The house had towers, observatories and three fireplaces. The ceilings were beamed and mahogany wainscoted.

''I think one of the possessions my grandfather prized most was his library,'' Garman said as he sat in the library of his condominium where many of the 2,800 volumes are in mahogany cases.

''He collected hundreds of the books of the Civil War, Lincoln and Napoleon,'' Garman added. ''Those were his favorites, and I am sure he studied Lincoln and Napoleon for the many things they achieved. Both were poor — they started with nothing material — just as my grandfather did.

''He and grandmother helped many less fortunate people, and although they had quality possessions in later years, they never owned a car or radio.''

Garman prizes some of the beautiful pieces from his grandparents' home. He is fond of a large oil painting of beeches by J.E. Bundy, Hoosier artist from the Richmond-Newcastle area. The massive gold-ornamented frame is early 20th century and originally was encased in walnut. Gold-framed mirrors, walnut chests and a large Victorian chair with walnut frame are among other possessions which he values highly.

Governor Hanly died August 1, 1920, near Dennison, Ohio, when a car in which he was riding was struck by a train.

Mrs. Hanley died in 1927 at the home of her daughter. Governor and Mrs. Hanly are buried at Williamsport beside their four children who died when very young.

In addition to the grandson, descendants include his sister, Helen Louise Garman Blanchard, Bradford, Connecticut, and her daughter, Deborah Ann Packard.

Garman's children are: Gregory Hanly Garman and Andrew Hanly Garman. Great-great grandchildren of the Hanlys are Jennifer Walker Garman and Jonathan Hanly Garman, children of Andrew Garman.

Lois Kimsey Marshall

(1909 - 1913)

"I can say of her as Webster said of Massachusetts: 'There she stands. Look at her'."

Thomas Riley Marshall, Indiana's 26th governor, was writing about his devoted wife, Lois Kimsey Marshall, when he was serving as vice president and they began their social career in Washington. (D.C.)

"It is not mine to write a record of the woman whose gentle spirit and kindly graces have smoothed for me many a rough spot in my political and social journey. . .and if there be either need or desire to ascertain what was her status in the life of Washington, there are unnumbered souls who will gladly testify to her courtesy, her unfailing charm, her downright success."

The Marshalls' marriage became a legend in their lifetime. They were so devoted to one another that they never were separated overnight, even during Marshall's rigorous campaigns for the governorship of Indiana and vice presidency of the United States.

When he was Indiana's chief executive (1909 to 1913), Marshall refused to go on an excursion of governors down the Mississippi River because his wife would have had to travel on another boat.

Lois Marshall matched wit with her husband, and she was his mentor throughout his political career. A look at family backgrounds shows some of their early interests and principles to which they adhered.

Marshall was born at North Manchester in 1854 and graduated from Wabash College in 1873 when he was 19. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity and Phi Beta Kappa scholastic honorary. He was small in stature, a meticulous dresser and a philosopher known for common sense and wit.

His father was a physician whom Marshall described as "not prominent beyond his own community but a presentable gentleman known to most of the leading men of the state." Early in life young Marshall met those who seemed to him later to have been giants.

Senator Daniel Vorhees, President Benjamin Harrison, Vice President Thomas A. Hendricks, Senator Joseph E. McDonald and others were among those Marshall met.

"Ours was no different from the average home in that community," he recalled in "Recollections of Thomas Marshall — Vice-President and Hoosier Philosopher." "I shall not soon forget how the days began. First we had a long Presbyterian prayer that began in Indiana and ended in China. Then we had a teaspoonful of quinine and then we had breakfast. The years have gone by; prayer and the quinine have disappeared, but, thank God, we have breakfast."

In his "Recollections," Marshall told of his father ministering to the ills of humankind. "It was never too late at night, nor too stormy, for him to go; and it made but slight difference whether he ever received any compensation for it or not. In our country home we had a hotel annexed to the house. The table was never spread for less than twelve. It took a cook, a maid and my mother, as general manager, to feed my father's patients. They always arrived in a drove about 11:30 a.m.; and after having 25 cents worth of quinine pills charged, they would come in and eat a dollar's worth of food . . . During the War between the States no soldier's family was ever charged a cent for services."

After studying law in Fort Wayne, Marshall was admitted to the Columbia City bar, and he opened his law office on his 21st birthday.

In 1878 he became engaged to Catherine Hooper whose father was an attorney. Invitations were sent to many relatives and friends for the wedding, but Catherine died the day before the wedding. The inscription on her tombstone in the Columbia City cemetery reads: "Kate R. Hooper, died Sept. 21, 1878, aged 21 years."

Marshall remained a bachelor and lived with his mother until she died when he was 40 years old.

In 1880 he was defeated for prosecuting attorney. The Democrats asked him to run for the congressional nomination, but he refused, saying he was afraid he might be elected.

He was appointed a special judge to hear a case in circuit court in Angola in 1895. There he met 23-year-old Lois Kimsey who was serving as a deputy in the office of her father, William E. Kimsey, county clerk.

Soon he began spending his evenings at the Kimsey home, drinking lemonade on the porch or having dinner with the family.

"I knew Mr. Marshall three years before I discovered that he had designs on me, Mrs. Marshall said in an interview when her husband was vice president. "He was a little backward in coming forward, but when he did start courting he proved himself a progressive, for we were married inside of three months after he declared his purpose."

The Kimsey family was known in both professional and business areas throughout the early and mid 1800s in Allen and Steuben Counties. William Kimsey, father of Lois Kimsey Marshall, was born in Allen County in 1851, the son of Dr. Joseph C. Kimsey. In 1855 the family moved to Salem Center — a small village often referred to as the "Burg." In 1872 Dr. Kimsey erected a business house in Salem Center, and father and son became partners in the general mercantile business. In 1872 William Kimsey married Elizabeth Dole, a native of Huron County, Ohio, born in 1851, the daughter of John Dole of Salem Township.

Their children were Lois I., and Wallace D. Lois attended Tri State College at Angola and was a member of the Philomathean Literary Society. William Kimsey served as postmaster and was a notary public.

The Steuben Republican, Oct. 9, 1895, published a story of the Marshall-Kimsey nuptials:

> "At the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. E. Kimsey, in Salem Center, at noon last Wednesday, Oct. 2, 1895, Hon. Thomas R. Marshall of Columbia City, and Miss Lois I. Kimsey, the handsome and popular daughter of our county clerk, were united in marriage, Rev. F.E. Knopf, of Elkhart, performing the ceremony. Miss Jennie Finch of Angola served as bridesmaid, and Wallace Kimsey, brother of the bride, as best man.
>
> "The only other persons outside the immediate family of the bride were her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Kimsey and Mr. and Mrs. John Dole. Mr. Marshall and his bride, after partaking of the banquet provided for the occasion, left for a wedding trip in the east and south. On returning Mr. and Mrs. Marshall will reside in Columbia City."

Marshall was 41 years old, and she was much younger — but years later when Mrs. Marshall was asked if she believed that she and her husband were the happiest married couple in Washington, she answered: "One of the happiest, I imagine."

She believed that the whole world revolved around him, and he catered to her every whim.

Although Marshall was a popular speaker and active in local Democratic politics, he was still only a small town lawyer when he received the nomination for governor in 1908, a compromise dark horse candidate.

His wife encouraged him to accept the nomination and to move into public life where she said she was certain he would be respected and trusted for his ability and leadership.

"Once in a while during the campaign (for governor) I forgot what should be the prayer of every public man on arising in the morning: Oh, God, keep me humble this day," Marshall said. "Once in a while I thoughtlessly began to brag, and on one occasion in the presence of Mrs. Marshall I bragged that I had made the most strenuous campaign that was ever made in Indiana; that I had made one hundred sixty-nine speeches in that campaign.

"Mrs. Marshall, my best friend because she was my severest critic, stopped me, and said: 'Oh, Tom, don't tell that story! I was with you all the while. What you mean to say is that you made one speech one hundred and sixty-nine times in the state of Indiana. And if you dare to deny it, I'll deliver it now; and you tell them anything else you said!"

He won the governorship over Republican James E. Watson.

During his administration he tried, but failed, to get a new state constitution written. He supported vocational training, the state's first inheritance tax, the regulation of drug traffic, child labor laws and medical examination of school children.

As First Lady, Lois Marshall became active in civic affairs in Indianapolis and Indiana, entertained brilliantly and was always beautifully dressed.

She won affection for her hospitality and sense of humor. Once she answered a reporter, "Yes, I cook a little, but it is too hard on Mr. Marshall."

The Marshalls lived at 1229 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, from 1909 to 1913, during his term as governor. The state did not provide a governor's mansion.

Ethelred Naylor, writing for the Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette when the Marshalls moved into their Pennsylvania Street home, said:

"Mrs. Marshall herself answered my ring. Her greeting was such as to put thoughts of intrusion into the far background.

"'Won't you take off your hat?' she asked as she led the way into the hall. 'Your train doesn't come until seven, and you are to stay for dinner.'

"Mrs. Marshall is many years her husband's junior and has just arrived at the perfection of her beauty. Slender and graceful, she belongs to the blond type. Her hair is soft brown with glints of gold. Surely there has never been a younger nor more delightful woman in the Governor's Mansion.

"She has the well-bred dignity of maturity combined with the spontaneity of a young girl, and it is fascinating to hear her recount her experiences during the recent campaign.

"Mr. and Mrs. Marshall are practical in their fondness for children, and they have done untold good among the poorer children of the town."

A 1912 issue of the Journal-Gazette states: "The Governor's home is typical of its mistress. It is a home of books but still one does not feel 'bookish.'...

"Mrs. Marshall is not only a wife and mistress of a home, she is a politican and a clever one. Mrs. Marshall is the 'rememberer' of the family. Not only does she remember last names but any combination of names."

Marshall served eight years as vice president under Woodrow Wilson. As the Senate's presiding officer, he was known for his witticisms. During one Senate sitting about how to return to postwar economic health, he uttered his now-famous apothegm, "What the country needs is a really good 5-cent cigar."

The Marshall's tastes in music, honed by 30 years of married life, differed widely. Mrs. Marshall was devoted to grand opera, while Marshall much preferred comedies and light tunes.

Once, with her customary frankness, she told newsmen: "I told him that a man who could not appreciate grand opera had no soul, and he didn't like it."

But while he accompanied her to the opera, she also was frequently with him at the light shows. She never objected to, or seemed to notice, his large, strong black cigars.

They lived in the New Willard Hotel during their eight years in Washington. She made significant contributions to women's affairs by organizing "The Ladies of the Senate Luncheon Club" and "Diet Kitchen and Welfare Center."

The Marshalls were hosts to the Prince of Wales and were friends of other world-famous people. Hundreds of young women wanted to meet the prince. Marshall tells of the reception in the prince's honor in the Congressional Library, when not half of the guests had passed him by at midnight.

"Your Royal Highness, this is too much for you," Marshall in his book, "Recollections," recalled telling him. "Take the arm of the vice president; walk down the line, bowing to the people and go to your rest."

His answer was: "No. These people came to grasp me by the hand, and I will stay here if it takes till morning."

Mrs. Marshall was ill and unable to attend the public functions for the prince. He did her the honor of calling on her.

"It was during his visit that I gained what was to me a new and marvelous insight into life," Marshall wrote in his "Recollections." "I had long mulled over that passage of Scripture which announces: 'Except ye become as little children ye shall in no wise enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.'

"Just as we entered war, Mrs. Marshall, working as a volunteer, had found a sickly little boy and brought him home with her...he grew out of his crib, but he never walked with as sure a certainty on the streets of Washington, as he walked into my heart. Beautiful as an angel; brilliant beyond his years; loving from every standpoint, he came to be the sun and center of Mrs. Marshall's life and mine...there was but one continuous dream of the nights: 'Is it well with the child?'...

"Well, when the prince came, this little fellow toddled in and looking with the eye of trust and confidence into his eye, he said: 'Who are you?' Then I knew that the faith and trust of childhood are as essential to democracy as they are to entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven...It glorified this heir to the throne of Great Britain; it raised to kingship this little child from a humble American home."

Little Morrison Marshall died when he was three and a half years old.

The Marshalls returned to Indianapolis to live following his years in the vice presidency. He died in Washington June 1, 1925, when he had gone there to make an argument for a client before the United States Board of Tax Appeals. After her husband's death, Mrs. Marshall lived for many years in Arizona, where her parents moved when her father retired. Following their deaths, she lived in a resort hotel. She died January 6, 1958, in a Phoenix, Arizona, hospital. Both Governor and Mrs. Marshall are buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis.

Jennie Craven Ralston

(1913 - 1917)

Scholarly Jennie Craven Ralston, who claimed that her most important college experience was meeting a young man from Owen County, persuaded her husband to turn down the Democratic nomination for the presidency.

At the 1924 Democratic national convention, Samuel Ralston, Indiana's 27th governor — then United States senator — was the Hoosier state's favorite son candidate for the presidential nomination.

On July 8, 1924, Thomas Taggart, the state's national committeeman, worked out an agreement in a Waldorf-Astoria Hotel room by which Ralston would be nominated the next day, breaking a long deadlock between William G. McAdoo and Al Smith.

But a telephone call came to Taggart from Indianapolis: ''My wife and family do not wish me to take it,'' said Senator Ralston, ''and my own views coincide with theirs.''

John W. Davis was nominated July 9 on the 103d ballot, an all-time record. He lost the election to Calvin Coolidge.

Even though she did not want her husband to accept the nomination, Jennie Ralston had keen interest in Hoosier and national politics.

"It was just like reading a page out of history to talk with my grandmother," Jane LaRue McClintock said from her home in Clearwater, Florida. "I was the only grandchild — neither of the Ralston sons had children — and we were very close. The hours with her were real treasures."

Mrs. Ralston, who lived to celebrate her 92nd birthday, had known every Indiana governor since Thomas Hendricks in 1873 visited her father's farm and ate some corn-pone she had made. She was equally familiar with the national scene. She had known presidents and vice presidents.

"Grandmother was born November 15, 1861, on a farm at Center Valley in Hendricks County, 10 miles south of Danville," Mrs. McClintock said. "She loved to tell about the rugged days, as she called them, before she was born."

Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. W.B. Craven, and the family had been in Indiana since 1828 when her grandfather came from South Carolina to stake a claim on 1,000 acres. He cut a patch in the woods and then went back for his family and belongings.

"We have a grandfather's clock with wooden works that was brought from South Carolina," the Ralstons' granddaughter said. "It was a long trip of six weeks. A cow was hitched to one of the wagons. Grandmother said two children helped with the wagons, and another rode in front of his mother on a horse. In those days every woman had to know how to use a shotgun to protect the children from bears lurking just outside the clearing.

"Grandmother often reminded me that life does not have to be easy to be productive," Mrs. McClintock said. "In fact, all her life she worked like she had been taught as a child."

Her father worked on his father's farm until she was 15 years old, and then he moved his family of seven children to Danville. There he opened a dry goods store, so that some of his flock could attend Central Normal College. The first four, including Jennie, graduated there; and then the family moved to Bloomington. The other three attended Indiana University.

Jennie was awarded an honorary L.L.D. degree by Central Normal in 1939, but she always said the college was special to her because she met her future husband there.

"We were classmates, but I beat him a year," she often recalled.

"I expect Grandmother would have been called a liberated woman had she lived today and held the jobs she did," her granddaughter said. "She taught two years in a country school, was superintendent of Ellettsville school two years and was principal of the Bloomington junior high school one year.

"Meanwhile Grandfather was reading law in Judge Robinson's office in Spencer and courting her. Even then he must have had a tremendous sense of humor, and sometimes he embarrassed her with his compliments."

Samuel Moffett Ralston, who was four years older than Jennie, was born on a farm near New Cumberland, Ohio, and moved with his parents to Owen County near Spencer when he was 13 years old. He worked as a farmer, butcher and coal miner in Owen County before teaching school at the age of 16. After seven years of alternating periods of work and school, he was graduated from Central Normal College in 1884.

He was first married to Mary Backous at Connersville in 1881. She died within a year.

Samuel and Jennie were married in 1889, and their home was a comfortable brick farm house seven miles from Lebanon. He had established a law practice in the Boone County seat by that time, and he was interested in politics.

"Grandmother always said he was a good speaker and held to the truth," Mrs. McClintock recalled.

Mrs. Ralston made good use of the big house near Lebanon. From early days of marriage throughout her life she enjoyed company and anticipated that guests would come.

"Even in later years she always baked many pies and cakes on Saturday," her granddaughter said. "To the reminder 'but you don't have guests coming!' she would reply, 'Oh, people will come and then food will be ready'."

At Lebanon a big stone cooky jar in the entrance hall was a trademark of family hospitality. Visitors departed with generous supplies of goodies. The three Ralston children — Emmett, Julian and Ruth (Mrs. Stewart LaRue) — shared homemade baked foods with friends.

Civic and charitable activities were a challenge to the effervescent Mrs. Ralston. She was a member of many clubs and was named chairman whenever three or four women got together.

She was president of the board of charities seven years, president of the women's division of the Presbyterian church for five, head of the Tourist Club and president of the Domestic Science Club, one of the oldest in the United States. She helped to organize the Parent-Teacher Association.

While she was vice-president of the Indiana Federation of Clubs in 1915, she and other Federation members lobbied for a state park system. Turkey Run State Park was purchased during Governor Ralston's administration.

She was a trustee of the Indiana Girls School at Clermont, and she was an honorary member of the Woman's Press Club of Indiana. For many years she was hostess for the Press Club's Christmas party.

Even before her husband's election as governor, the Ralstons were hosts to many distinguished visitors. Among frequent guests was William Jennings Bryan.

An active Democrat, Ralston ran for secretary of state in 1898 and lost. He also lost the gubernatorial nomination to Thomas R. Marshall in 1908, but in 1912 he was the Democratic nominee and was elected. He defeated Albert J. Beveridge, Progressive, and Winfield Durbin, Republican.

There was no governor's mansion when Ralston was elected, so he rented a house at 21st and Delaware streets.

''Grandmother missed the privacy of their own home, but she enjoyed the many festivities of the years as First Lady,'' her granddaughter said. ''She enjoyed setting beautiful tables; and in springtime she often used yellow jonquils with lovely china, crystal and linens at luncheons.''

Governor Ralston was known as a progressive administrator. The first nonpartisan state highway commission and the public service commission to regulate public utility corporations were created.

A 40-year-old state debt of $1,010,000 was paid off, and Indiana was free of debt for the first time in 80 years.

In 1922 Ralston defeated Beveridge for the U.S. Senate.

Whenever there was time, the Ralstons returned to the ''Hoosier Home'' they built on 24 acres of land north of Indianapolis.

Ralston died October 14, 1925.

''The house I remember was that wonderful, big place near Indianapolis where Grandmother had a cow, chickens and a horse named Betsy,'' Mrs. McClintock said. ''Betsy worked two or three days a week, plowing fields and gardens. When the little chicks got wet, Grandmother brought them in and let me wrap them in cloth or towels and warm them on the registers.

''She had lambs and fed them with a bottle, especially for me.''

''She had a big garden, and she wore old work shoes and looked like a tramp. Then she would come in, bathe and get dressed in beautiful clothes ready for a swanky political meeting. She would walk in with great dignity and participate in discussions. Sometimes she invited me to go with her.''

In 1934 Mrs. Ralston became Democratic national committeewoman from Indiana and served until she resigned on her 91st birthday.

As a leader in state politics she encouraged women to serve as volunteers in their precincts, counties and districts; and she emphasized the importance of getting out the vote. Nationally she assisted Mrs. India Edwards, Washington, D.C., director of the national committee's women's division. Mrs. Edwards came to Indianapolis March 6, 1950, to attend a Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner.

"But Grandmother's meetings didn't interfere with the bushels of garden products she raised and gave away to neighbors, friends and churches," her granddaughter recalled. "She canned hundreds of quarts of green beans, tomatoes and other vegetables and many fruits, and she made hundreds of glasses of jelly. She may have seemed like an elderly lady at 70 to some people, but that was the year I was born, and she was always youthful to me."

Mrs. Ralston took Jane and a friend, Betty Gardner (Shupe) of Indianapolis to the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia when Truman was nominated.

"And she took me to Democratic editorial meetings at French Lick when I was just six years old," Mrs. McClintock said. "We stayed in that beautiful hotel, and she had a babysitter for me at night.

"Grandmother didn't eat meat from the time she was 40 years old. She ate vegetables, fruits, fish and sometimes chicken liver. At luncheons and banquets there never was any flurry about menu; Grandmother's meatless plate arrived at her place."

Mrs. McClintock said that her grandfather was a good friend of James Whitcomb Riley, and that she has many autographed books which the Hoosier Poet gave to the Ralstons. The American flag on Riley's casket was given to Mrs. Ralston, and in turn to Mrs. McClintock, who gave it to the James Whitcomb Riley Foundation.

Governor Ralston's state papers were given to Indiana University.

Mrs. Ralston died June 25, 1954, at the home of her daughter in Indianapolis. Both the Ralstons were buried at Lebanon.

Their daughter, Mrs. W. Stewart LaRue, died December 20, 1979. The Ralstons' sons died at early ages.

Mrs. McClintock graduated from Indiana University in 1953, with a major in French. She taught French to gifted children in Indianapolis Public Schools two years, going from school to school.

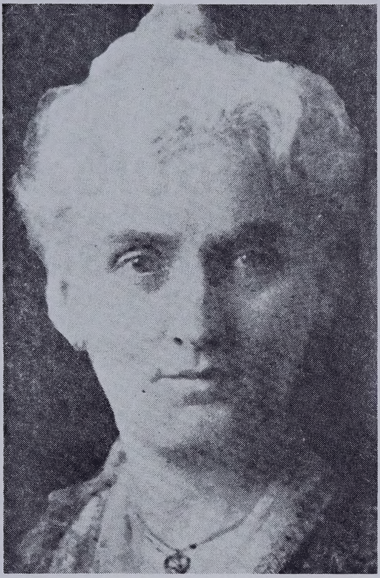
When the McClintocks' daughter, Lynn, 23, was planning her wedding to Albert Connette, the bridegroom's family had an heirloom diamond ring; and Mrs. McClintock found her grandfather's gold wedding band.

"They wore family treasures," Mrs. McClintock said.

Both are ministerial students at Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, and both plan to be Presbyterian ministers.

The other great-grandchildren of the Ralstons are: Mark McClintock, 26 married, graduate of Florida State University, an investment broker; and Kristin McClintock, 18, high school senior.

Mrs. McClintock's husband, Karl, is an investment broker.



Cora J. Frist Goodrich

(1917 - 1921)

The love of books, music and art were mutual interests of youthful Cora Frist and James P. Goodrich when they met in Randolph County in the late 1880s. The interests led to marriage, a rich, full life and at their deaths, legacies of libraries for a college and a town.

Cora J. Frist was born in Middleborough, Wayne County, Indiana, June 26, 1861. She was the daughter of Jonas L.P. and Amy Powell Frist, who came to Wayne County from the East.

The "History of Randolph County" describes the Frists as "old settlers of the county and a highly esteemed and influential family." The history also records the fact that James M. Hamilton, who from 1870 to 1872 was engaged in the flouring mill, saw mill and planing mill businesses, established a tile factory in connection with J.L.P. Frist, which they operated for two years in Lynn, Indiana.

Cora attended high school at Lynn and Winchester and was graduated from Winchester High School.

She was just 16 years old when, according to the "History of Randolph County," she joined the teaching force of Winchester Central School. One of her pupils was James Watson, later United States Senator from Indiana. She taught school two years.

On March 15, 1888, Cora I. Frist was married to James P. Goodrich, described by the "Winchester City History" as "a rising young lawyer of Winchester."

He was the son of John S. Goodrich and Elizabeth Edger Goodrich. John Goodrich was born in Virginia in 1831 and came with his father, Edmund B. Goodrich, to Randolph County, Indiana, in 1832. He read law with his uncle, Carey S. Goodrich, was admitted to the bar and had marked success in his profession.

James Goodrich was one of six children. When his father died in 1872, he owned 500 acres of land including the Goodrich homestead of 160 acres.

Young James Goodrich graduated from Winchester High School in 1881 and taught school for a year and half. He then entered DePauw University where he studied two years. James studied law in the office of Watson and Engle, was admitted to the bar in Winchester in 1887 and formed a partnership with John W. Macy, which later became the firm of Watson, Macy and Goodrich.

The Goodriches soon became active in professional and social affairs in Winchester.

They built a French Provincial home, impressive both because of its size and design; and they entertained many literary groups, musicians, artists and politicians.

Cora was a charter member of the Winchester Woman's Club, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of 1812, honorary president of the Junior Daughters of the Union and third vice president of the General National Society Daughters of the Union.

She was interested in various departments of the Indiana Federation of Clubs and served as fifth district president of this General Federation of Women's Clubs affiliate.

One of her later interests was the Madonna Class of the Presbyterian Church — a group she founded in 1914.

Even with all these activities, she found time to cook for relatives and friends, and she was known for her baking skills — pies, cakes and homemade bread.

In 1910 James Goodrich established an Indianapolis law firm named Monks, Robbins and Goodrich, with offices in the Pythian Building. By this time he was devoting much of his time to financial holdings in farms, coal mines, utilities, grain elevators and banks.

He had been active in Republican politics in Winchester, serving as state chairman from 1901 to 1910; and on moving to Indianapolis, he became national committeeman in 1912, serving until 1916.

In that year he won the Indiana governorship over the Democratic candidate, John A.M. Adair of Portland, and the Progressive Party candidate, Thomas A. Dailey of Indianapolis.

During his four years as governor, the Goodriches lived in the Spink Arms Hotel where they entertained state, national and world leaders.

The First Lady had an aversion to smoking and drinking and called the habits unhealthful. Most guests complied to her requests to abstain from these.

Cora's leadership in the Indiana Federation of Clubs prompted her to speak out for woman suffrage, education and attention to needy children. She also assisted her children in setting up the operation of the Red Cross in each Indiana county for work during World War I. Church groups began cooperation with the Red Cross; and hundreds of women set up sewing circles in churches to make robes, pajamas and knitted garments.

When troops came back from World War I, Governor and Mrs. Goodrich sat in a reviewing stand near an arch of triumph which had been built at the entrance to the Circle on Meridian Street. A photograph in the Indianapolis Star-News Library shows the large crowd which gathered to celebrate the signing of the Armistice.

Planning a state highway system and creating the Department of Conservation were among achievements of Goodrich during his administration. Plans for the Indiana World War Memorial also were made.

In 1920 he was a favorite son candidate for the presidential nomination, losing to Warren G. Harding, who named him as a special emissary to Russia.

The former governor also toured Russia as a member of Hoover's American Relief Administration, investigating famine conditions.

The Goodriches had one son, Pierre Frist Goodrich, Indianapolis attorney and patron of the arts. He was one of the first directors of the Chamber Music Society.

Following the gubernatorial term and travels in Russia and other countries, the couple returned to their home in Winchester. He became interested in a number of Indiana banks, including the National City Bank in Indianapolis. He planned the erection of the office building known then as the Railway Exchange Building, using a single page as a contract. The construction was carried out without blockading any part of Washington Street on which it was located.

Mrs. Goodrich centered her attention in Winchester around the Madonna Class and continued teaching and guidance.

Goodrich died August 15, 1940, of paralysis and a heart ailment. She died October 31, 1941. Both are buried at Winchester.

The Frist Memorial Library, called one of Lynn's greatest community assets, was made possible in part by an $8,000 grant given by Mrs. Goodrich and a $3,000 fund given by Governor Goodrich in 1941. Mrs. Goodrich presented her gift in memory of her parents. A portrait of Mrs. Goodrich in a dark red dress hangs in the library.

Library board minutes, the Randolph Southern Bicentennial publication and Lynn library records tell the story of the library. In July, 1941, a photograph was taken of Mrs. Goodrich at the library site with Herbert Anderson, Lynn town board president, and Merl Chenoweth, town clerk.

Goodrich made bequests of $150,000 to Wabash College, $50,000 to Hanover College and $50,000 for a public park in Winchester, which he always regarded as his home.

The Goodriches' son, the late Pierre Goodrich, donated his 2,000-volume collection of books to Wabash College and donated a room in the million-dollar Lilly Library for the legal volumes.

Biographical material about Mrs. Goodrich is recorded in the book "Women of Indiana," published by the Indiana Women's Biography Association, Indianapolis. Obituaries of the Goodriches in The Indianapolis News and Indianapolis Star also provide records.

Nancy Goodrich Poniatowski, granddaughter of Governor and Mrs. Goodrich, recalls "many wonderful days that I spent with my grandmother."

The daughter of the late Pierre Goodrich, Nancy married Prince Poniatowski of Poland; and the couple lived in Paris and traveled extensively.

She attended Orchard School, Indianapolis, is a graduate of Tudor Hall and studied at Vassar, Poughkeepsie, New York. In Europe she was a student at Oxford and the Sorbonne.

"I loved being with my grandmother," she said in a telephone interview while in Indianapolis. "I spent many wonderful days with her at my grandparents' home in Winchester. Their library was one of a kind in the nation, and the books were like old friends to me.

"After grandmother died, I returned from Europe and stayed at the big house, enjoying memories in the many rooms and reading book-after book which I loved. Later, when the house was torn down, I felt that a part of me died with the house."

Ella Ade McCray
(1921 - 1924)

Ella Ade McCray grew up in a genial, academic family of seven children including a brother, George Ade, who became known nationally as an author, humorist and playwright.

Warren T. McCray, a big, handsome Irishman, was born in 1865 near Kentland, the son of a banker. He was educated, along with the Ade children, in public schools at Kentland.

Ella Ade's father, John, in "Personal Recollections," tells of his early life and years of work which led to a successful career.

He was born, September 18, 1828, in Lewes, County of Sussex, England.

"About June, 1840, my father and mother (Esther Wood Ade) and three boys — myself, the oldest; William and Henry, started for the United States by way of London," he wrote.

The trip on a sailing vessel took 45 days. From New York, the family went to Philadelphia and on to Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. The Ades went by small railroad cars pulled to the top of a mountain and then lowered to a canal at Johnstown. By flatboat, the family moved down the Ohio River to Cincinnati; and from there, they went to Bridgetown.

John Ade went to school in Bridgetown just three months, but he said "I could read, write, spell and (was) fairly well posted in arithmetic...so that when I moved to southern Indiana, I was looked upon as quite a prodigy."

He then worked on farms in northern Indiana, kept a toll gate, was a store manager, ran a blacksmith shop and worked in banks in Kentland. In 1851 he married Adaline W. Bush.

The couple had seven children: Anna Liza, Mary Alice, William H., Emma, Joseph, George and Ella, the youngest, born October 23, 1867, at Kentland.

Ade was a partner in a bank with V.W. McCray and E.L. Urnston from 1875 to 1908.

Warren McCray clerked in his father's bank from the time he was 15 years old and took over as president when his father died in 1913.

His financial interests included a chain of grain elevators and a 3,200 acre stock farm on which he bred Hereford cattle. He was president of the National Grain Dealers Association.

McCray and Ella Ade were married June 15, 1892.

They built a 12-room, three-story house in Kentland the summer they were married. Furnishings in the large rooms were distinctive and comfortable, and there were antiques including many family heirlooms. A large library became one of the favorite rooms for children and, later, grandchildren.

The McCray children — Marian, Lucile and George — grew up there and attended public schools. The McCray girls went to Wells College, Aurora, New York. George went to Purdue University, alma mater of his famous uncle. Ross-Ade Stadium at Purdue is named for George Ade and David Ross.

"I remember that big house in Kentland that I visited as a boy," William M. Evans, Indianapolis attorney, said as he spoke of his grandparents in later years. "The house still stands in Kentland.

"There were tubes in the walls of some of the rooms," he said. "You could whistle through the tubes and get the attention of people in the kitchen and other rooms.

"On the big farm where my grandfather had cattle, he had Hereford bulls," Evans said. "Out in the great expanse of the farm there was a giant statue of a bull — supposedly one of the largest in the nation — and you could see it for miles around. The name of the bull was 'Perfection Fairfax'."

Evans said he remembered his grandfather's skill as a mathematician.

"He could look at a long list of figures, run his fingers down the list and have the answer immediately."

Evans' sister, Barbara Evans Emison (Mrs. John C. Emison, Jr.), writing from her home in Chatam, Massachusetts, said, "Grandmother exemplified all the feminine virtues expected in her generation. She was really beautiful, even in old age; and she was sensitive, shy and reserved.

"She had unswerving loyalty to family and friends; and I literally never heard her criticize anyone, no matter what the provocation. She was gentle and loving, but at the same time she ran a fairly complex household in such an efficient way that no one seemed to be aware that there was any other possibility than to have everything done just right, on time and with no apparent effort.

"I did not know it was rare until I tried it myself," Mrs. Emison said. "Grandfather thought nothing of bringing home unexpected guests for meals; and no matter how short the notice or how many guests they always felt they had had a feast."

Mrs. Emison said her grandmother believed totally in basic equality in people, and "by her example taught us to treat people absolutely the same no matter what their 'station.'

"Grandmother was an incredible cook," Mrs. Emison said. "One of my earliest memories is of learning how to make cinnamon rolls under her guidance when I could just see over the table — and they are still one of my specialities.

"She had a bubbling sense of humor that was a delight to me, and we were always laughing when we were together. She loved to play games, and we had many evenings of fun playing everything from Old Maid to cribbage to mah-jongg to Russian bank to bridge."

Mrs. McCray warned her young granddaughter about the hazards of grain bins, stacks of hay bales, horses, cattle and machinery on the big farm.

"After the initial warning, she just let me go and prayed," Mrs. Emison said. "On rainy days I explored the marvelous big attic with its endless boxes, or I read contentedly in the big library. No one ever had better grandparents."

McCray lost the 1916 Republican nomination for governor to James C. Goodrich. After McCray won the 1920 election, he sponsored 13 amendments to the state constitution in a special election; but only one amendment, incorporating women's suffrage and limiting suffrage to citizens, was adopted.

Eighty-seven public buildings were erected during his administration, including many at the State Fairgrounds. The 1923 General Assembly passed the state's first gasoline tax to provide money for highway construction.

Governor McCray and his family were the first to live in the Fall Creek Boulevard Governor's Mansion.

Mrs. McCray was hostess at a number of teas including several celebrating the Indianapolis centennial. She was a guest at a centennial tea given by the Woman's Press Club of Indiana at the Severin Hotel.

A pageant marking the anniversary had been the highlight of the city's celebration. Mrs. DeMarchus C. Brown, world traveler and speaker known as Indiana's "Lovable Gadabout," had the role of "Indiana," and Myra Reynolds, noted Hoosier sculptor, was "Indianapolis."

"My mother and father (Lucile McCray and William F. Evans) were married in the Governor's Mansion," Attorney Evans said. "My Aunt Marian had a degree in social work from Indiana University," the McCrays' grandson added. "She worked in family welfare in Indianapolis several years and was secretary to Al Cast of Kentland when he was superintendent of schools.

"My uncle George McCray managed the farms at Kentland."

There were sad days for the First Lady when her husband's financial affairs suffered reversals during his governorship. He was forced to resign in 1924 after being convicted of mail fraud in a case relating to his financial collapse.

Mrs. McCray continued her serene composure, convinced that he would be pardoned. She returned to their Kentland home, worked in the Presbyterian Church as she had for years and led a quiet life.

Her husband returned to Kentland after three years in prison. With assistance from friends, he was able to rebuild his stock farm which he had lost to creditors. He later received a full pardon from President Herbert Hoover.

Governor McCray died December 13, 1938. Mrs. McCray died December 19, 1947, in their Kentland home. Both are buried in Fairlawn Cemetery, Kentland.

Katherine Bain Branch

(1924 - 1925)

The hometown newspaper, the hometown boy and the family home on a tree-lined street in Martinsville all had special meaning for Katherine Bain Branch, wife of Emmett Forest Branch, Indiana's 30th governor.

In 1889 when Katherine was 10 years old, her father, James Bain, founded the Martinsville Daily Reporter. They stood together by the flatbed press and watched as the first papers were printed. Then she helped to deliver the papers that evening.

She often said she had ink in her blood, because her father became editor of the Morgan County (weekly) Republican soon after its founding in 1870 and sole owner in 1874. He continued to publish both papers through the early 1920s.

Katherine lived on the same street as Emmett Branch, just two blocks away, but in later years recalled, "I never thought of going with him. His brother, Bud, was my age; and once Bud was going to take me to a dance, but couldn't go. He sent Emmett in his place, and that was how our romance began."

The Governor's Mansion on Fall Creek Boulevard in Indianapolis was home for her just nine months of 1924-25.

"But she came back and forth to our comfortable two-story house in Martinsville so she wouldn't lose touch with the simple life," her son, retired college professor James E. Branch, recalled. "I was a high school senior at the time and wasn't in Indianapolis often."

Branch and his wife graduated from Martinsville High School. He was born May 16, 1874, the son of Elliott Frank and Alice Parks Branch. She was born in 1878, one of five children of James G. and Sally Johnson Bain.

Branch played center field on the 1893 Indiana University championship baseball team and played cornet in I.U.'s first band. He was business manager of the Indiana Daily Student and a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity. He worked in a shoe store to help finance his schooling and graduated from Indiana University in 1896, majoring in history.

He studied law with his uncle, Judge M.H. Parker, and was admitted to the bar in 1899. In law practice he was associated with the firm of Oscar Matthews and Judge James H. Jordan. Later he formed a partnership with Judge A.M. Bain.

Mrs. Branch, after graduating from high school, became secretary to Judge James Jordan.

Katherine Bain and Emmett Branch married in 1905. Mrs. Branch described her husband as wonderful and brilliant, stern but with a sweet nature. He liked fishing, camping and was an avid reader.

Their son said they lived very simply.

Branch's military record began in 1898 when he enlisted in Company K of the Indiana State Militia at Martinsville. He was the first man in Morgan County to offer his services at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War. He served on the Mexican border from 1916 to 1917; and in World War I, he served as a colonel.

Mrs. Branch was proud of her father's Civil War record. She often told how he went to war at 16, was on the march with Sherman, went on to Washington and was a second lieutenant just before he was mustered out. His Company C came to Indianapolis by train and walked to Martinsville, staying overnight in Waverly.

In addition to the publishing business, for several years the Branches opened their home for a fee to out-patients of the Martinsville Home Lawn Sanitarium.

"It was a plan similar to that used by Mayo and other hospitals so that out-patients could stay close to the sanitarium for treatment," the Branches' son said. "Many people who lived close to Home Lawn rented rooms to patients."

John Elwood Bundy, the famous Hoosier artist, was an "itinerant painter" during early years of the Branches' marriage. He stayed in their home as a roomer and conducted painting classes. Then he would sell some of his paintings and move on to another town.

Mrs. Branch studied with him and did an oil painting of sheep very similar to one painted by Bundy in water color. Professor and Mrs. Branch have both compositions in the home place, and they prize them highly.

"There is such a similiarity in the sheep that we believe Bundy may have helped a little in some of my mother's work," the professor said. "He often added a few strokes here and there as he was instructing students."

Emmett Branch entered politics in the Republican party when he was a young man. His grandfather, P.S. Parks, was a state senator; and his father served as district chairman of the Republican party.

Branch was elected three consecutive terms — 1903 to 1907 — to the Indiana House of Representatives and was speaker of the House during his last term. It was during that term that he ruled out the "omnibus" method of passing legislation. An unwritten rule allowed the "committee of the majority" to combine bills, which were then passed by the legislature without discussion. Branch forbade the use of the method.

He was elected lieutenant governor in 1920 and became governor on April 30, 1924, when Governor Warren T. McCray's resignation became official. McCray began serving a prison sentence for using the U.S. mails in a scheme to defraud. Branch served as governor until the inauguration of Ed Jackson in January, 1925.

"Everything was so sudden and surprising that we scarcely knew what was happening," Mrs. Branch commented about the inauguration. "We were fond of the McCrays, and it was too bad it all had to happen."

A newspaper account said that Branch looked like the typical homespun, county seat lawyer when he was sworn into office as governor. He wore an old slouch hat, raincoat and carried a battered little valise that he clutched nervously.

Branch was so deeply touched by McCray's resignation and conviction that he sobbed as he participated in inaugural ceremonies.

Mrs. Branch said there was an adjustment to make in moving to the Governor's Mansion. Life there was somewhat a social whirl to which she had not been accustomed, but she enjoyed it. She said Indianapolis people were friendly and nice to them.

Several family gatherings were at the mansion, the governor's son, James, recalled. "Mother also had friends from Martinsville there for special occasions," he said. "And there were teas involving wives of legislators. But Mother found the Fall Creek home not really suited to entertaining that a governor should do."

Mrs. Branch returned to Indianapolis for some events following residence in the Governor's Mansion, but the couple resumed their more quiet life in Martinsville.

She belonged to the First Methodist Church and its Woman's Society of Christian Service and was the president of the Coterie Club from 1936 to 1938.

Branch was president of the Branch Grain and Seed Company and a stockholder in the Martinsville Trust Co. In 1929, Governor Harry G. Leslie appointed the former governor a member of the State Armory Board.

Branch often was kidded about his middle name, Forest. His brother and sisters also had names connected with trees — Olive Branch, Leafy Branch and Frank Oaks Branch.

The Branches' son, James, was on the faculty of the University of Illinois and later head of the department of architecture at the University of Miami, Florida. Now retired, he and his wife live in Boca Raton, Florida, during the winter and return to the "home place" in Martinsville each summer.

Governor and Mrs. Branch's granddaughter, Mrs. Robert L. Bundy, lives in Martinsville, and their grandson, James E. Branch II, lives in New Jersey and teaches at the American Academy of Dramatic Art, New York.

There are five great-grandsons — James, Barry and Christopher Bundy, and Kevin and James E. Branch III.

Governor Branch died February 23, 1932. Mrs. Branch died the day before her 89th birthday, March 27, 1967, in the Bloomington Hospital.

They are buried in Hilldale Cemetery, Martinsville.

A plaque commemorating the public service of Gov. Branch and Gov. Paul V. McNutt, both from Martinsville, is on the courthouse lawn in the Morgan County seat.

Lida Pearce Jackson

(1925 - 1929)

Queen Marie of Roumania was coming to Indianapolis to thank citizens for their generous donations of food and clothing during World War I when her armies were defeated and her country faced disaster. Her royal entourage of 12 cars was to arrive on the Big Four Railroad from Chicago at the Union Station at 5 p.m. November 17, 1926.

Thousands of people planned to join the crowds to get a glimpse of the beautiful queen who had faced foes with courage. Her daughter, Princess Ileanna, and her son, Prince Nicholas, were to make the trip from Chicago by automobile and join their mother at the station.

A royal reception was to include a stop at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, an official city greeting by Mayor John L. Duvall at the City Library, services at the Roumanian Orthodox Church and a banquet at the Columbia Club.

Governor and Mrs. Ed Jackson were to be state hosts at the Statehouse at 6:30 p.m. A women's committee was to arrange colorful flowers, palms and flags.

The governor's nine-year-old daughter, Josephine, wanted with all her heart to meet the queen, but her parents didn't give their approval until near the time of the reception.

"I begged to go, and finally the folks consented if I would stay out of sight," Jo Czenkusch wrote from her home in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. "I hid behind the potted plants brought in for the reception and watched the whole affair, loving every moment.

"The Queen was everything a queen should be — tall, regal in bearing and dressed in a gold brocade gown. The short train was trimmed in sable.

"After the last guest had gone through the receiving line, I waited to be beckoned out of my hiding place. But everyone was preparing to leave," Mrs. Czenkusch reminisced.

"'Psst — psst!' finally got my father's attention, and he motioned for me to come forward and be presented.

"What a thrill when the Queen bent over and kissed my cheek!"

This experience is one of many recalled by the Jacksons' children. The family included four daughters and a son.

Lida Pearce was the widow of Herbert B. Pearce and the mother of two young daughters when Edward L. Jackson, a widower with two daughters, moved next door in Irvington in East Indianapolis.

Jackson, an attorney, was involved in politics.

She was secretary of the Young People's Department of the Christian Women's Board of Missions, and she edited a monthly magazine, "King's Builders."

"She was devoted to North Park Christian Church, Flanner House and the James W. Riley Childrens' Hospital," Mrs. Jackson's daughter, Mrs. Czenkusch, said. "She was an early member of the Riley Cheer Guild."

Records of her church work are on file at the Disciples of Christ General Office, 222 South Downey Street, Indianapolis.

Both the Jackson and Pearce families are remembered by older Irvington residents as friendly, outgoing people. Mildred Campbell, longtime resident, talked to several women who recalled knowing them.

The couple married November 22, 1920, when he was 47 years old and she was 30.

He adopted the Pearce girls, Margaret and Josephine.

Jackson's daughters were Edith Jackson Beatty, a social worker at the Indiana University Medical Center, and Helen Jackson, who died in 1961. Mrs. Beatty, now deceased, was the wife of the late Dr. Norman Beatty, for whom Beatty Hospital at Westville, Indiana, is named.

Both of Jackson's daughters were young women and away from home when their father remarried. The Jacksons adopted a baby boy whose parents had been killed in a theater collapse in Washington, D.C. They named him Edward F. Jackson.

Lida Pearce Jackson was born at Tipton, November 19, 1881, and her family homesteaded in Kansas.

"Mother wrote a story about her family's trip in a covered wagon to Kansas from Indiana," Edward Jackson, her son, said in a letter from his home in Anaheim, California. "They lived in a sod house in the Plains and burned buffalo chips for fuel.

"She taught school in Larned, Kansas. Her father (David Beaty) and mother lived in Osawatomie, Kansas. Her brother, Bill, drove a Missouri Katy Railroad engine for forty years out of Parsons, Kansas.

Telling of his adoption, the Jacksons' son wrote: "They wanted another child so they adopted me. Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall, another First Lady and also wife of the vice president, was associated with an adoption home in Washington, D.C., and she told them about me. She and the Lord arranged for my adoption.

"My father was secretary of state, and everyone in the office chipped in and bought a high chair for me. My two sisters, Jo and Margaret, spoiled me. When I was three I sat on General Pershing's lap, and he bought me a doughnut."

More information about homesteading was provided by the Jacksons' granddaughter, Margaret Ann Parker (daughter of Margaret Jackson Parker), who wrote from Allison Park, Pennsylvania, where she is a registered nurse.

"One of grandmother's duties was to collect cow chips for fuel, since there was no wood in the area.

"One of her favorite stories was about her father's rescue of her little brother, Joe, from coyotes. When the boy was 2 or 3 he wandered away when his father was hunting jack rabbits for supper. The boy found a den of baby coyotes to play with. His father was about 200 yards away when he saw little Joe playing with the young pups — and he also saw the mother coyote traveling at a full run toward her den to protect the babies and attack Joe.

"His father had to shoot at the mother coyote from 200 yards away and hope and pray that he could hit her on the first try, because a second would be too late. He killed the coyote just in time. He felt terrible about having to kill the mother, but had no choice. They brought the babies home to raise. There were 8 or 9 pups."

Miss Parker said she was only eight when her grandmother died, "But I remember she always had time for my brother and me and made us feel very loved and special."

Jackson was born on a farm near Kokomo December 27, 1873. He wanted to be an attorney, but his family could not afford fees for education. He worked as a bricklayer, at a railroad depot and as a newspaper carrier to support himself. Then he studied 10 hours a day in the office of Attorney Lee Nash, where he was allowed use of Nash's law library.

He passed the bar examination; and at the age of 30, he opened a law office in Kennard. Jackson served as prosecuting attorney at New Castle in 1898 and was appointed to fill an unexpired term as circuit court judge in Henry County.

Shortly before World War I, he was elected secretary of state on the Republican ticket. His term of office was interrupted by his army enlistment. After his discharge as a major, he returned to his office at the State House.

Jackson won the governorship in 1924, having carried 60 of Indiana's 92 counties.

The Jacksons lived in the Fall Creek Governor's Mansion which was simply furnished. Both the First Lady and the governor were advocates of economy, and she managed without expense of major redecorating.

"The social aspect of our life at 101 East 27th Street (Fall Creek) was 'my cup of tea,' and I loved answering the door and helping with the wraps," Mrs. Czenkusch said in a letter.

"We had a darling couple who worked for us and whenever there was to be a dinner or party she would grin from ear to ear as she busied herself in the kitchen.

"It was a standing joke that 'Mrs. Jackson has lots to do — she has to fix the flowers . . . flowers more important than the meal'."

Mrs. Czenkusch singled out "the summers we spent in the Governor's home at the Indiana Dunes State Park as my happiest memories."

"Dad was instrumental in acquiring this for a State Park," she said.

"The friends of whom I was most fond were Mr. and Mrs. James A. Stuart — of the Indianapolis Star." (Stuart was managing editor of The Star when he and his wife, Ruth, were near neighbors of the Jacksons. Stuart served as The Star editor from 1946 to 1960, and editor emeritus from 1960 until his death in 1975.)

Josephine and Margaret Jackson attended School 36 and graduated from Shortridge High School.

Josephine attended Hanover College.

"Because of the Depression, I only went two years, majored in journalism and worked at the New Albany Tribune until the flood of '37 just about washed it down the river."

While working at the Purdue University admissions and purchasing department, she met her husband, Ed Czenkusch, whose study was interrupted by military service at Fort Sill. Later he received a graduate degree in chemical engineering and has just retired after 35 years as a chemical engineer in research and development with Phillips Petroleum Company.

The Czenkusch's daughter, Caroline, is on the staff of the Tulsa, Oklahoma, Tribune; and her husband, Rusty Johnson, is art director of the Continental Heritage Publishing Company.

"This company published 'Indianapolis — Hoosiers' Circle City'," Mrs. Czenkusch said. (George W. Geib, professor of history at Butler University, is author of the book published in 1982.)

The Czenkusches' son, Alan, is with the Colorado Wildlife Department.

By telephone from Sun City Center, Florida, Margaret Jackson Parker said she is now able to walk with a walker after being bedfast with diabetes.

"Our daughter, Margaret Ann, a registered nurse at Allison Park, Pennsylvania, was with us during the holidays and she helped me with therapy," Mrs. Parker said. "She encouraged me to walk some each day, increasing the time as I have strength."

Mrs. Parker attended Indiana University three years. She met her husband, Earl, when he was completing requirements at I.U. for a doctorate in chemistry. They were married when she was a junior, and after a year in Bloomington, they moved to Milwaukee where her husband was with Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company 11 years.

Their son, David Earl, lives in Houston, Texas.

The Jacksons' son, Edward, attended Shortridge one year and graduated from high school in Orleans where his parents moved. He studied music and voice at the Chicago Conservatory of Music and was in the Army during World War II.

"I played trumpet in bands in the Army for Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Dinah Shore and Red Skelton," he said in a letter. "I play with four Dixie band clubs in the Los Angeles area."

He is employed by Mansanto Company as a shipping clerk. His wife of 27 years, Carol Marie, also was adopted. Her father was Dr. Adolph Hinklemann of Oklahoma City.

Polly Tveite of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, paid tribute to her step-grandmother, Lida Jackson, in a letter.

"On my 16th birthday, my Mom re-did my bedroom with lovely antique furniture and white dotted swiss, and grandmother gave me one of her large china dolls which I cherish. I shall give the doll to my granddaughter when she is old enough to care for her.

"During part of the time Grandfather was governor, Grandmother had encephalitis," Mrs. Tveite said. "It was then that my Mom (Edith Jackson Beatty) acted as his hostess.

"My brother, Norman J. — now deceased — was born at the Governor's Mansion. That was June 17, 1925."

In retirement, the Jacksons lived in Orleans.

"They bought an old log barn from which they used logs to build a house on a hill surrounded by apple orchards," Mrs. Tveite said. "My grandmother raised Aberdeen Angus cattle, and Grandmother ran an antique store. "I remember soon after Christmas after they moved in, we gave them a rug we hooked with the picture of the lovely log house.

"I spent a week two different summers with them," Mrs. Tveite added. "The first summer I climbed a persimmon tree outside the back door a lot, and the next summer it didn't have persimmons anymore.

"Grandmother had a lovely garden with a low stone wall around it. I have a picture of myself on my fourth birthday with an arm full of iris in her garden."

During Governor Jackson's term of office, the state indebtedness was paid off and the tax rate was reduced. Eleven parks and memorials were united into one system, including Spring Mill and Dunes state parks.

The Jackson administration was plagued with repercussions from political scandals involving D.C. Stephenson and the Ku Klux Klan. Stephenson and the Klan had claimed credit for Jackson's gubernatorial victory; and the KKK newspaper, "The Fiery Cross," featured a streamer headline, "Protestant Ticket Sweeps State," and a large Jackson photo. Stephenson later was sentenced to life imprisonment for the slaying of a Statehouse stenographer.

During his term as governor Jackson himself was tried on charges of bribing Governor McCray but was acquitted under the statute of limitations.

During this period in their lives, Mrs. Jackson gave support to her husband and refused to believe the charges brought against him. She continued her work in the church, in Riley Cheer Guild and in other civic affairs.

Both of the Jacksons' daughters and Polly Tveite recalled the large collection of dolls which Lida Jackson dressed during the years when Governor Jackson was bedfast at Fairhill, their home in Orleans.

"He was speechless and paralyzed," Mrs. Czenkusch said. "But mother cared for him, sitting by his bedside much of the time. She dressed over 75 antique doll bodies — with authentic costumes of peoples around the world. She would study the National Geographics and duplicate every detail."

The dolls were presented to James Whitcomb Riley Hospital, and today are in an exhibit there. Mrs. Jackson's daughters said they hope to have a special plaque made for the exhibit.

Governor Jackson died in the log house at Orleans in 1948 at age 80.

Mrs. Jackson died there April 16, 1956.

Martha Morgan Leslie

(1929 - 1933)

When she was only nine years old, Martha Morgan sat on the front steps of her home in West Lafayette and watched 17-year-old Harry Leslie play ball with teen-agers across the street.

Years later when she came home on vacation from MacMurray College, Harry Leslie was coaching the football team at Battle Ground High School. By then he was a hero, not only to Martha but to people throughout Indiana. He was captain of Purdue University's baseball and football teams in 1903 and was seriously injured in the wreck of a train taking the Purdue football team to play Indiana University at Bloomington. He walked with a limp as a result of a crash in which 16 died.

Leslie took time from athletics to court Martha when he noticed that she had grown into a beautiful young woman.

''Some people mistakenly say that my father and the team were on their way to the Old Oaken Bucket game when the train was wrecked,'' John Leslie, oldest of the three Leslie sons, said in an interview at their office, ''but the first Old Oaken Bucket game was in 1924.''

The three sons of Indiana's Governor and Mrs. Leslie — John (Jack), Richard and Robert — have been in business together 36 years. Their firm is Leslie Brothers Co., Inc., in Indianapolis.

"Mother was born February 13, 1886, in Frankfort, the daughter of John F. and Laura Morgan," John Leslie said. "They lived on a farm but later moved to Lafayette. Her parents died when she was very young, and she was raised by an older sister."

Governor Leslie was born in West Lafayette on April 6, 1878. In addition to athletic achievements, he was the only Purdue graduate to be president of two senior classes, in 1904 and 1905 (after the train wreck). He was the university's first athletic director and president of the alumni association.

"My parents were married August 16, 1910, after my father attended Indiana University Law School. He had opened a law office in Lafayette in 1907.

"Within a few years, Mother said, she had a houseful of boys. We were just two years apart and lively," John Leslie recalled.

"My father became treasurer of Tippecanoe County in 1912, the only Republican elected that year. He was a member of the State House of Representatives from 1923 to 1927 and speaker of the House in 1925 and 1927.

"Our home in Lafayette was comfortable and open to many friends, but we also spent a lot of time as a family. We all read a lot, and we had duties and activities.

"Mother was interested in politics. She liked to see the wheels go round, and she and my father had unusual talent for friendships. She enjoyed social activities with legislators' wives and many people throughout the state, but like everyone else she was surprised when my father was nominated for governor.

"There were eight aspirants for the Republican nomination in 1928, and he was fifth on the list in the popular vote. There was great dissension so the decision had to be made in a convention. Henry Marshall was managing my father's campaign, and he knew just when to get the band to come marching in. My father was the fifth consecutive Republican governor. That was the first time that had happened in Indiana."

The Leslies lived in the Governor's Mansion behind 101 East 27th Street.

"Some people said it was on Fall Creek or behind the Marott Hotel," Leslie said. "It was difficult to give people directions to the house. I was in the first incoming class at Shortridge High School, and then all three of us went to Howe Military School for three years as we came of age. We are all Purdue graduates."

Mrs. Leslie entertained the State Assembly Club and other groups at the Governor's Mansion, but there was not great demand for use of the residence for club and auxiliary meetings.

"Colonel Charles Lindbergh was our guest, and Mother certainly enjoyed talking with him. My brothers and I and my father had lots of questions for him," Jack Leslie recalled. "That was just a few years after his solo flight across the Atlantic — the first person to do that. But he was so modest about his achievement."

Another guest was Admiral Richard Byrd who was in Indianapolis speaking about his trip to the Antarctic.

The Leslies took time for short summer vacations at the governor's cottage at Dunes State Park.

"I think we were about the only family that used that cottage," Jack Leslie said. " We all loved it because it was secluded and in a beautiful place. But few families wanted to go there, because it was so difficult to drive through the sand. Once there, you had to climb about 70 steps to get up to the cottage."

Governor Leslie had no chauffeur because he didn't want one, and the only times state police guarded the mansion were the two times convicted murderers were executed at the state prison, according to the Leslie son.

"Mother had the help of a housekeeper and a cook," Jack Leslie added.

Drought, labor problems and unemployment marked the Leslie administration. The Depression was so bad that there was no source of help for hungry people except that of churches, friends and neighbors, the Salvation Army and a few people who gave anonymous gifts of food and clothing.

Governor Leslie called a special session of the General Assembly to reduce taxes. A law was adopted which limited property taxes to $1.50 per $100 of valuation in incorporated areas and $1 in rural areas.

"My father was impressed with the work of Herman B Wells, and in 1931 appointed him secretary and research director of the Study Commission for Indiana Financial Institutions which had been created by the General Assembly," the governor's son recalled. "Of course Wells had many talents and went on to serve as president and now chancellor of Indiana University," Jack Leslie added.

After his term as governor, Leslie helped to organize the Standard Life Insurance Company of Indiana. He was president of the firm when he died December 10, 1937, in Miami, Florida. He was buried in Lafayette.

"One of the last people to talk with my father was George Ade, one of his dearest friends," Jack Leslie said.

Mrs. Leslie lived in an apartment at 3715 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis for several years after her husband's death.

She was grateful that all her sons and their families were living in Indianapolis, and she often commented about the importance of grandchildren. She had three — Martha (her namesake) and Thomas, children of the Jack Leslies, and David, son of the Richard Leslies.

Martha, now Mrs. John Brooks, is field representative for the Central Indiana Council of Girls Scouts. Thomas is an attorney, and David is an associate of the Leslie Company.

Mrs. Leslie continued her interest in state affairs and often was a guest in Indianapolis during legislative sessions. She was a member of the North United Methodist Church; Lafayette chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution; the State Assembly Club; Kappa Kappa Kappa sorority, the Indianapolis Legislative Woman's Club and the Republican Club.

The former First Lady lived in an apartment at the Franklin Methodist Home during her later years. She participated in social events there and frequently visited with relatives and friends in Indianapolis.

She was 91 when she died December 20, 1977. Burial was in Grandview Cemetery, Lafayette.

''When I was in Franklin moving my mother's keepsakes to Indianapolis, a woman who had been a resident in the Methodist Home a long time called to me,'' Jack Leslie said.

''I just want to tell you that when your mother walked down to the dining room she always stepped with such dignity that she seemed like a queen,'' the friend said, ''We all loved her.''

Kathleen Timolat McNutt

(1933 - 1937)

Governor and Mrs. Paul V. McNutt often were described as the most handsome couple ever in Indiana's Executive Residence, so striking were they in the role of the Hoosier ''First Citizens.''

While attending a dance at the San Antonio, Texas, Country Club on Christmas Eve, 1917, Captain Paul V. McNutt, United States Field Artillery, asked to be introduced to the beautiful Kathleen Timolat.

He had enlisted in the Army November 27, 1917, and had been sent to Camp Travis near San Antonio.

They were married four months after they met, April 20, 1918, in the Episcopal Church at Fort Sam Houston near San Antonio. Their honeymoon was brief, for the next day Captain McNutt was transferred to the Headquarters Field Artillery Replacement Depot at Camp Jackson, Columbia, South Carolina. His wife stayed in San Antonio.

Kathleen Timolat was born in Minneapolis and grew up in Texas. She was the only child of Louise Merriam Timolat and H.N. Timolat, a chemist, who had established a wax mill near Bustamente, Mexico. Timolat returned to the United States when his mill was destroyed by bandits during the Mexican Revolution.

Her ancestors were French; and her great-grandfather, a wealthy New Yorker, entertained Lafayette when he visited the United States.

She attended Mulholland, a select finishing school; and one of her favorite diversions was horseback riding.

McNutt was born at Franklin, Indiana, July 19, 1891, the son of John Crittenden McNutt and Ruth Neely McNutt, who were married at Morgantown, Indiana, July 7, 1886. Paul's paternal relatives were among the first settlers in Hensley Township, Johnson County; and the family could trace its ancestry to the MacNaughts of Kilguharity, County of Kircudbright, Scotland, in the 15th century.

His mother's ancestry went back to Daniel Prosser who served as a Virginia private in the American Revolutionary War.

Paul McNutt's academic, military and political life is recorded in files in the Indiana University Library, the National Headquarters of the American Legion, I. George Blake's "Paul McNutt, Hoosier Statesman," John H. Madison's "Indiana Through Tradition and Change" and interviews with McNutt's law partner, John Hurt of Martinsville.

McNutt graduated from Indiana University in 1913 with Phi Beta Kappa and Order of Coif honors. He obtained his law degree from Harvard in 1916 and began practice of law with his father in Martinsville. Soon he was named assistant professor of law at I.U.

During World War I, he was promoted to major in 1918 and lieutenant-colonel in 1919. After the war, he was commissioned as colonel and placed in command of the 326th Field Artillery.

He resumed his post as assistant professor of law at Indiana University in 1919 and was named dean of the Indiana University School of Law at the age of 34, the youngest dean of any accredited law school in the United States at that time.

McNutt also was active in public relations for the university. In 1922, he and Mrs. McNutt spent much time in New York, Washington and Chicago conducting a campaign for the million dollar Indiana University Memorial Union Fund.

McNutt served as Indiana commander of the American Legion in 1927; and a year later at the national convention of the American Legion in San Antonio, he was elected national commander.

His year in that office was a memorable experience for the McNutts. The couple traveled throughout the United States and Europe. They toured leading European capitals and met heads of governments. McNutt gave an address at the dedication of the American Legion Paris headquarters August 7, 1923.

In 1930 McNutt delivered the keynote address at the Indiana Democratic state convention, and two years later he was nominated for governor. He defeated Raymond S. Springer of Connersville, the Republican candidate, to become the first Democratic governor since Samuel Ralston in 1913-17. He took office two months before Franklin D. Roosevelt was sworn in as president.

Mrs. McNutt became well known throughout the state during the campaign when she accompanied her husband to many cities and towns. She had a magnetic personality, was gracious, witty and refreshingly candid — speaking up on current events — but avoiding political statements.

In 1933 when the McNutts moved into the Fall Creek Governor's Residence, their pretty dark-haired daughter, Louise, was 11 years old. Special care was needed for Louise because of a back ailment which required a brace. Arrangements were made for a night alert system in Louise's bedroom. By pulling the light switch by her bed, lights throughout the house went on.

Fortunately, she recovered from the illness, participated in various festivities and at 18 enrolled in Indiana University where she later graduated.

As First Lady, Mrs. McNutt entertained at small parties, all perfectly planned. Tall with blue eyes and light brown hair, she was always beautifully dressed, often in shades of blue.

She did extensive volunteer work for the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and programs of the Indiana Young Women's Christian Association.

A Martinsville friend tells the story of a short vacation trip to northern Indiana planned by the McNutts. Word reached several little towns that the McNutts would be passing through, and families with children planned to gather along the way to wave to the governor and his wife and daughter.

At the last minute the governor couldn't go until later in the day. The security guard, driver of the car, was tall with prematurely white hair like McNutt's.

"We'll all three wave to the people!" Mrs. McNutt told the guard. "We can't disappoint the people."

The car slowed wherever there were crowds. Three people waved, and the people waved back.

Kathleen McNutt often remarked that serving as First Lady made her feel very close to Indiana people.

There were exciting trips to Indiana University football games where they were seated with President Herman B Wells (now chancellor), and other distinguished guests. Eleanor Roosevelt was among many nationally known guests in the Governor's Residence.

McNutt was known as a strong, effective governor. He reorganized 169 state departments into eight main departments (the measure was repealed in 1941) and claimed that the savings amounted to some $2 million annually.

Inadequacy of law enforcement came under fire in 1933-34 during the rampages of John Dillinger, wanted nationally in a long series of bank and police station robberies. McNutt had signed Dillinger's parole from the state prison in Michigan City in 1933. Although the gang leader was captured and placed in the Lake County jail, he escaped with a wooden gun. No one even notified the Indiana State Police.

In an attempt to upgrade work of the State Police, McNutt and the 1935 Indiana General Assembly made provisions to double State Police personnel, create a police training school and, with assistance from the Indiana Bankers Association, provide a state police radio system.

McNutt established the "2 percent club" to collect funds from state patronage workers for the support of the Democratic state party.

During the first months McNutt was in office, his program of emergency legislation pre-dated the New Deal in many particulars and followed lines set out by President Roosevelt.

McNutt was appointed by President Roosevelt as High Commissioner of the Philippines for the years 1937 to 1939. These appointments followed: from 1939 to 1945, administrator of the Federal Security Administration; from 1942 to 1945, chairman of the War Manpower Commission; and from 1946 to 1947, first United States ambassador to the Philippine Republic.

McNutt then retired from public service to practice law in New York, Washington, D.C., and Manila, P.I.

Mrs. Eskham Boatman, widely known dressmaker who lived at 2319 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, was singled out to make the gown which Mrs. McNutt wore when her husband was sworn in as High Commissioner of the Philippines.

"I still have the card which Mrs. McNutt wrote to my sister (Mrs. Boatman) praising her beautiful work on the dress," Mrs. Marie H. Hedge said. "My sister made many of Mrs. McNutt's gowns, as well as those of the Lillys and others who appreciated quality.

"The governor's wife and others in Indianapolis sometimes purchased beautiful silks and other materials in Paris or the Orient," said Mrs. Hedge, for 39 years telephone supervisor at The Indianapolis Star and News. "Then they would depend on my sister to design distinctive gowns."

Mrs. McNutt took an active role in the various positions held by her husband, participating in many colorful events, especially in the Philippines.

"I enjoyed all of Paul's achievements," she commented later, "but he got the greatest satisfaction out of being governor of Indiana; and I did, too."

McNutt died March 23, 1955, and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

In 1956 Mrs. McNutt married Roy Watson and moved to Boston where her second husband was treasurer of the Church of Christ, Scientist, Mother Church.

She died February 1, 1980, at Princeton, New Jersey.

Louise McNutt lives in Washington where she works for the State Department.

Nora Harris Townsend

(1937 - 1941)

They both grew up in the heartland of Indiana — on rich earth — where acres, bushels and pecks are measures of stability.

Vivacious Nora Harris was 16 with ambition to become a singer of renown when she met M. Clifford Townsend, 21-year-old school teacher in Blackford County.

They went together four years before getting married, because he wanted to be sure of a good job in education before asking a young woman to be his wife. Teachers in Blackford County were without pay for awhile; but as soon as the salary problem was solved and he got his first check, he bought Nora a diamond ring. They were married in 1910.

At the age of 25, Townsend began an eight-year term as superintendent of Blackford County schools.

Nora was the daughter of Benajah C. and Eliza Winslow Harris who owned a large farm near Marion. The Harris family was the oldest Quaker family in Grant County. Nora's father had experience in civil engineering, teaching, surveying and farming. He had attended Earlham College.

Nora was the youngest of four children, and her father often called her "baby." She followed her father all over the farm, and finally he bought her a pair of boys' shoes so she could run faster.

She attended a country school through eight grades and then went to Marion Normal School where she graduated from high school. She studied piano, voice and elocution and loved to perform in all three areas. When Quakers had music in their meeting houses, she sang in the choir.

Nora also helped her mother with cooking, sewing, gardening and many other farm chores. Her father prided himself on being progressive. He had the first window and door screens in the county, the first buggy with fringe on top and later the first Model T Ford.

The future governor of Indiana was born in 1884 on a farm in Blackford County, the son of David and Lydia Glancy Townsend. His parents were young tenant farmers, and his mother was only 18 when he was born.

As he grew older, she encouraged him to leave the farm and get an education. He worked as a teamster in the oil fields and as a laborer in a glass factory to make money to enroll at Marion College. He paid $7.50 for a new suit the day before he entered college.

After his eight years in Blackford County schools, he took a similar job as Grant County school superintendent and began a three-year membership on the executive committee of the Indiana State Teachers' Association.

The Townsends then moved from Hartford City to Marion and returned to farming on more than 400 acres of land.

"Mother liked the space of the big house on the farm, but she wished for more modern conveniences," her daughter, Lucille Marshall of Indianapolis, said. "There was much more room to live, as Mother described it, but she was happy when she finally had an oil burner, a big range (cooking stove) and piped-in water.

"We had a hired hand who lived in the house and another we boarded, and it was nothing unusual for Mother to cook for 35 or 40 people.

"How she did it I don't know, but great big chicken pies, potatoes, fresh vegetables out of the garden, canned food from our cellar storehouse, cakes, pies and home baked biscuits were prepared for crowds. I remember one great big glass dish which she filled with homemade apricot-pineapple marmalade," Mrs. Marshall reminisced. "That disappeared quickly with hot biscuits."

The Townsends' daughter recalled dinners for threshers. Several women from neighboring farms usually helped; but the pies, angel food cakes, meat dishes and most of the food were made by Mrs. Townsend.

Members of a farm club — the forerunner of the Farm Bureau — often met at the Townsend home. For that event, homemade ice cream and iced tea, something new at that time, were often added to the menu.

Townsend served several years as state director of education for the Indiana Farm Bureau. He entered politics as a representative in the Indiana House and was elected lieutenant governor in 1932 on a ticket with Paul V. McNutt for governor.

In 1933 the General Assembly raised the lieutenant governor's salary and made him a full-time state employee. In previous years the lieutenant governor was paid only $1,000 and a daily stipend for presiding over the State Senate when the legislature was in session.

''My father was always proud of the fact that his mother, a delegate from Blackford County, placed his name in nomination for governor at the 1936 Democratic state convention,'' Mrs. Marshall said.

He became the third man in Indiana history to move immediately, by election, from lieutenant governor to governor. David Wallace and Ashbel T. Willard had preceded Townsend's move.

''Mother took one look at the Govenor's Mansion on Fall Creek and decided that the carpet should be cleaned, some of the walls painted off-white and the stairway refurbished. Then she brought some beautiful art into the house. In fact, she bought one of Brown County artist Leota Loop's most beautiful oil paintings — her ''Peonies'' — to hang over the fireplace in the mansion.''

(The painting of Indiana's state flower, in pinks, reds and whites, was willed to Mrs. Marshall by her mother.)

Mrs. Townsend was astonished to learn that there were few furnishings in the mansion, her daughter recalled. There were no tablecloths, no silverware, no china and no kitchenware. So all of the Townsends' pots and pans, baking utensils and other kitchen and dining rooms needs were brought from Marion.

Soon the Governor's Residence was the scene of teas and receptions. There was a tea for Psi Iota Xi sorority, of which Mrs. Townsend was a member, when plans were made to get oxygen chambers at Riley Hospital. Members of the Assembly Women's Club, the Indiana State Symphony Society, service clubs and Girl Scouts were among groups at the residence.

When Eleanor Roosevelt came to Indianapolis for a speaking engagement while Clifford Townsend was governor, Mrs. Townsend went to the Indianapolis Athletic Club to accompany the president's wife from her room to the Ballroom.

''It was a very hot day,'' Mrs. Townsend's daughter said. ''They were waiting briefly by a window on a stairway landing when Mrs.

Roosevelt suggested they raise a window. They tugged and yanked and finally got the window open.

"Suddenly Mother looked at Mrs. Roosevelt and said, 'I hate to tell you this, but you have soot all over your face.'

"They got out handkerchiefs and brushed and flipped the soot from Mrs. Roosevelt's face. Then she looked at Mother and exclaimed, 'Why you have soot all over your face, too!'

"They finally got dusted off in time for the luncheon."

Mrs. Marshall recalled that her parents enjoyed seeing Sonja Henie, world-known performer, in her ice skating extravaganzas at the Coliseum in Indianapolis. She also was a guest at the mansion. Will Rogers, Governor Townsend's favorite humorist, stopped by the governor's office; and the Townsends met Clara Bow and Joe E. Brown at French Lick on their way to the Kentucky Derby.

"My father had his picture taken with Clara Bow," Mrs. Townsend said.

The Townsends loved to fish, and a 40-pound sailfish hung over the fireplace at the Governor's Mansion for awhile.

"I caught it myself," Mrs. Townsend often pointed out with pride.

The governor's wife boasted that there was hardly any game, foul or fish that she didn't know how to cook — fish of all kinds, turtle, rabbit, squirrel, deer, quail, turkey, duck — even raccoon, but she didn't recommend coon for eating.

"My parents both loved the outdoors," Mrs. Marshall said.

While Townsend was governor, the Indiana Division of Labor was created, a law was passed making drivers' licenses and beginners' permits necessary and free public school text books were an innovation. Townsend was credited with the safety measure of having school buses painted yellow.

During World War II Townsend was head of food production for the nation and directed the Office of Agricultural War Relations, Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration.

While the Townsends lived in Washington, Mrs. Townsend worked with the Red Cross, helping to make hundreds of pajamas and bathrobes.

"The women sewed at pedal sewing machines," Mrs. Marshall said. "Mother was awarded a pin for her work."

Townsend, in 1943, resigned from Federal service and returned to Indiana to manage his farms in Blackford and Grant counties. He was defeated for election to the U.S. Senate by William E. Jenner in 1946.

"They lived in a beautiful Dutch Colonial house in Hartford City —

the house they lived in when they were married. Mother went on a redecorating binge,'' her daughter said, '' and they enjoyed being back on home soil.''

The former governor died November 11, 1954, and is buried in Hartford City.

''Mother lived by herself 26 years, and each year she seemed to be more active. She belonged to a literary club, the Magazine Club, the Century Club, Psi Iota Xi, a domino club (they really played dominoes) and a canasta club,'' Mrs. Marshall said.

''Frequently she would move the furniture, get new draperies, new sheets and pillow cases and even new art. Each summer and fall she made jelly and gave it to the church, for Christmas presents and to all the children. The grandchildren called her 'Jelly Grandmother.' She also made chicken and noodles, and often 'rolled out' noodles for clubs for church suppers.

''She kept up-to-date with dresses, and she was so tiny she always looked prim.''

The Townsends had a mobile home in which they traveled to Florida during winters, but she sold the home after her husband's death. Her real estate agent told her the buyers (the first to look at the home) bought it because when they entered they smelled homemade cookies just out of the oven.

Mrs. Townsend died March 28, 1982, at Winter Haven (Florida) hospital. She was 92. She is buried at Hartford City.

In addition to Mrs. Marshall, owner of the Marshall Building Specialties Co., Inc., other children are: Max A. Townsend, Palmetta, Florida, who farmed the family land; and Helen Marie Duncan, Winter Haven, Florida.

There are seven grandchildren.

Grandchildren of the Townsends are: M. Clifford Townsend and Nan Toflick, son and daughter of Max. A. Townsend; Max P. Duncan, Nancy Duncan Kirtley and Kitty Duncan Dove, children of Helen Marie Townsend Duncan, and Rex Clifford Marshall and Robert Townsend Marshall, sons of Lucille Townsend Marshall.

Maude Brown Schricker

(1941 - 1945) (1949 - 1953)

She was the wife of the first man in Indiana's political history to be elected twice to a four-year term as governor — the "Man in the White Hat" — Henry F. Schricker.

While his famous white hat became a symbol and almost a trademark for the Democratic party in Indiana, Maude Schricker's many distinctive hats lent more than a delicate air to her charm. They collected understated political points.

Whether she wore a perky white sailor with navy grosgrain band, a little inaugural hat trimmed with tiny red and white fur balls or a summer straw circled with flowers, the hat added a dash of pleasing style.

Today her many hats are part of a revolving exhibit at the Knox County Historical Society Museum. Mrs. Schricker's daughter, Margaret Robbins, has been asked to change the exhibit frequently, showing also inaugural dresses and various items symbolic of the two Schricker administrations.

Once, in retirement, Mrs. Schricker commented, "I left politics to papa."

"But make no mistake about it, mother was a born politican," her daughter said. "She just moved so naturally and quietly that she didn't know her own power.

"How many women as the wife of Indiana's governor, often without a car during wartime, would arrive at every tea, every committee meeting, every reception — going by streetcar or taxi. Sometimes while Mother was waiting on a corner, a motorist would drive to the curb and ask, 'Aren't you Mrs. Schricker? May I take you where you're going?' Then someone would offer to drive her home."

Some 700 people lived in the little town of Francesville in Jasper County when Maude Brown was born there in 1887.

Her maternal grandparents who lived in Plymouth were Christian Messerly, who served in the Mexican War, and Lucinda Schlosser Messerly. He died in his mid-50s in a carriage accident when a horse ran away, but his wife lived until 1911.

When Mrs. Schricker's parents, Dr. Stephen Ira Brown and Emma Marie Messerly Brown, were married they settled first at Medaryville and then moved to Francesville. The courage of both was tested when his leg was almost severed in a run-away-horse accident.

Doctors called to the scene wanted to amputate his leg. They said it would never heal, but Dr. Brown had different ideas. Step by step he directed his wife how to set the leg, and she meticulously followed his instructions. Together, they saved his leg. He limped the rest of his life, but he was able to walk until he died at 77.

Mrs. Brown, born in 1854, lived to be 92, and was a guest at both Schricker inaugurations and at many events in the governor's residences.

Maude Schricker was next to the youngest of six Brown daughters — Grace, Artha, Bess, Ruth, Maude and Florence. Their brother, Howard, died of diptheria at the age of five.

The girls had many home duties and school assignments; but they found time to make fudge for friends, ride a bicycle built for two, go to family reunions, take surrey rides and attend church twice on Sunday and once during the week.

The four older girls completed eight grades in Francesville School, and then Mrs. Brown learned that an elderly physician at Knox had died and that his practice was for sale. She urged her husband to buy the practice — not only for the professional opportunity — but because Knox had better schools.

At Knox, Maude Brown graduated from high school and then went to college two terms at what is now Valparaiso University.

Henry Schricker lived in Knox. His father, Christopher Schricker, was born in Bavaria, Germany, and came to the United States with a flute, a trumpet, violin, guitar and $5 in cash.

In the 1860s he moved to North Judson, Indiana, where he lived in a log cabin and worked for a dollar a day as a laborer on the railroad. Later he operated a general store and played for dances.

He married Magdalena Meyer, also from Bavaria. Their son, Henry, was born at North Judson in 1883. He got his first business experience in his father's general store. He attended North Judson grade school but completed only one year of high school. Later he took a correspondence course from the South Bend Business College.

When Henry Schricker was deputy clerk in the Starke County court, he began to read law; and in 1907 he was admitted to the bar.

The story of how and when the Schrickers met differs depending upon who tells it, according to their daughter. One version is that young Hank met Miss Maude when he was walking the railroad ties each morning on his way to read law in the Starke County clerk's office, and she was taking her cow out to pasture at the edge of town.

Another story is that Maude came to North Judson with her father and met Henry on the front porch when she stopped to visit friends. The young attorney was eating a roasting ear.

Young Hank practiced law at Knox for one year and then became cashier of the Hamlet, Indiana, State Bank. On the night of his first day, robbers blew open the safe but didn't reach the money. For three weeks Schricker toted a suitcase with $3,000 to $4,000 in it everywhere he went until the safe was repaired. Meanwhile Maude Brown applied for a school teaching job at Toto, Indiana. The township trustee, J.E. Clemmens, asked her the usual questions about her ability to teach reading, writing and ciphering. Then he queried, ''Kin you play the organ?'' She could — and she taught there two years.

Travel caught her fancy when an aunt, a teacher, asked her to go to visit relatives in Salt Lake City and North Dakota. A photograph of the two, dressed in travel finery with plumed hats, waving from the observation car, is treasured by the Schrickers' daughter and sons, Henry and George.

In Braddock, North Dakota, the 18-year-old girl decided to homestead and teach school there on the new frontier. She staked her claim for a five-year stay and arranged for a workman from Norway to haul in fresh-sawed lumber and build an 8 by 10-foot cabin. She made sure there was a firm foundation. Cost of the cabin was $25.

A lumber camp, a little store and other cabins for lumbermen's families dotted the wooded area, but neighbors were miles apart. If the snow was too deep for her to get back and forth from the one-room school to her cabin, she stayed with families of her pupils. During the fall months the moon shone so brightly that she recalled she could sit in the cabin doorway at night and crochet.

Henry Schricker began a letter campaign to persuade Maude to return to Indiana. Finally, she arrived, wearing her little sailor hat, high-buttoned shoes and a stylish long-sleeved dress with nipped-in waistline.

"Mother loved to sew," her daughter reflected about her beautifully hand-made clothes. "And she loved plaids. I had lots of plaid dresses as I grew up."

The young couple was married October 21, 1914, in her parents' white frame house. Her dress was white silk, and all details were in order for the soloist to sing, "O Promise Me." But the bridegroom was late.

By then he not only had turned to banking, becoming cashier of the Hamlet State Bank, but in 1908 he had purchased the Starke County Democrat. The press broke down, and Hank had to get it going before he could leave for the wedding.

Chagrined but happy, he rushed in, and the ceremony got underway. They went to the newly built Washington Hotel in Indianapolis for their honeymoon.

The next year they built a house at Knox and lived there throughout their lifetime except for the Schricker lieutenant governor and gubernatorial terms. A marker has been placed on the house with the Schricker names.

Their children in addition to Mrs. Robbins are Henry F., South Bend, and George W., Indianapolis. There are six grandchildren.

Schricker edited the weekly newspaper 11 years and served in 1916 as president of the Indiana Democratic Editorial Association. He then joined the Farmers Bank & Trust Co. in Knox.

Mrs. Schricker kept busy with home, children, church and school activities, picnics at Bass Lake and pleasant associations with other young wives. Many times she was costume chairman for church or school plays, and she often said that the attic looked like a theater costume room.

"It was when my father was elected lieutenant governor in 1936 that we began moving to Indianapolis," Mrs. Robbins recalled. "I say, 'began' because during legislative sessions we lived in a building at the Fairgrounds which later became the caretaker's home.

"Mother often joked about living 'once upon a mattress' because the WPA had stored dozens of mattresses in the house. Since we just brought furniture from Knox as we went back and forth, the boys had a ball with the mattresses. They piled them on cots and slept on them. They had guests frequently; and they stacked three mattresses in the living room, covered them with a big cloth and made a table.''

Schricker traveled up and down the state making speeches and increasing his acquaintanceship and popularity with the state's voters. In 1940 he won the Democratic nomination for governor, and in November he was elected with a margin of less than 4,000 votes in a year that was otherwise Republican. He was the only Democrat elected to state office.

Prohibited by the 1851 State Constitution from succeeding himself in office, Schricker was nominated in 1944 for United States Senator, and he lost a close race to Homer E. Capehart.

Schricker retired to private life as vice-president of the Fletcher Trust Company in Indianapolis, and although the Schrickers maintained their legal and voting residence in Knox, the couple made their home in the capital city, living in an apartment at 39 East Ninth Street.

He was renominated for governor in 1948. He won by 139,103 votes and carried a Democratic slate of office holders and a Democratic House into the Statehouse with him. His victory was called ''a moving tribute to his immense personal popularity with the people.''

His administrations were notable for the repeal in 1941 of the government reorganization laws of 1933 and legislative attempts to make welfare department records available to the public in violation of Federal confidentiality requirements. Schricker called a special session of the legislature in 1951, but the welfare controversy was resolved by congressional action in Washington.

''Mother loved living in the Governor's Mansion on Fall Creek Boulevard,'' her daughter said. ''There was room to entertain as many as 400, and mother opened the house to groups throughout the state. She baked thousands of cookies and loved to serve them just out of the oven for club women, Girl Scouts, service clubs, the Assembly Women, neighbors and guests from near and far.''

The kitchen, which measured 25 by 30 feet, was so unhandy that Mrs. Schricker said there wasn't a woman living with arms long enough to reach from the sink to the cabinets, from the stove to the refrigerator or from any spot to the pantry. Often during the war the governor's wife had little or no help because no sooner would she find someone to help with cooking than the woman would announce she was needed in a ''Rosie-the-Riveter'' job.

Mrs. Schricker always cooked turkey with all the trimmings for Thanksgiving, but in 1942 she was sick with an infected tooth. George had leave from the Great Lakes Naval Station for one day only, so Margaret, who was due back in Texas where her husband, Dr. Lewis Robbins, was in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, was asked to cook the turkey.

"I did the whole dinner — a 25-pound turkey, crumb dressing, cranberry sauce, pumpkin and mince pie and so on," Margaret remembers. "When George left, I sent stacks of turkey sandwiches to all the fellows at Great Lakes; and the next day mother had to go to the hospital."

A few weeks before Pearl Harbor, Gov. Schricker phoned his daughter in Texas and asked, "How would you like to break a bottle of champagne on a ship?" She was chosen to christen the USS Indiana at Newport News, Virginia. Two trainloads of Hoosiers attended the ceremony. "Little did we know that the beautiful Indiana would be in combat in the Pacific within the year," Mrs. Robbins said.

Mrs. Schricker never forgot the courage, the spirit and patriotism of Carole Lombard who came to Indianapolis in January, 1942, to launch a United States Defense Savings Bond drive. After a rally on the steps of the monument and a tea at the Governor's Mansion, Miss Lombard asked Mrs. Schricker to accompany her to her room in the old Claypool Hotel where she was to dress for a rally that night at Cadle Tabernacle.

"When we walked in the room, there were beautiful, long-stemmed red roses in a crystal vase," Mrs. Schricker often reminisced.

The card read, "With all my love, Clark."

That night the 21-passenger Douglas Transport carrying 18 persons including Miss Lombard crashed on a mountain. All 18 people aboard were killed. Clark Gable was waiting at the Los Angeles Airport.

Governor and Mrs. Schricker were joined by hundreds of other Hoosiers in sending condolences to the grieving husband of Miss Lombard.

The Schricker family enjoyed music together — the governor at the piano, George playing the violin and Henry blowing the trumpet. They all liked to sing old-fashioned songs.

During the second term, the family lived at 4343 North Meridian; and again, Mrs. Schricker entertained many groups. Her second inaugural suit was soft gray wool, and she wore a little gray felt hat. At the first inaugural she wore a sheer blue wool with white collar and cuffs.

"You get attached to the people of your state and your country," she often said. "You feel like you ought to do better."

The Schrickers returned to their home at Knox when his second term of office ended, and they were greeted with many homecoming events. They lived quietly, "in real retirement," as Mrs. Schricker described it.

Governor Schricker died December 28, 1966, and Mrs. Schricker died November 15, 1970. Both are buried at Knox.

Survivors in addition to the daughter and two sons were their grandchildren: Christine Gallagher, Mary Jack, Kathryn Buschman and Susan Goegart, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Schricker, and Sara Klein and George S. Schricker Jr., daughter and son of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Schricker.

Helene Edwards Gates

(1945 - 1949)

"Ralph said as we were leaving the governor's residence for the final time, 'Here goes the last of the $8,000 governors!'" said spritely Helene Edwards Gates, at 93 the oldest living wife of a former governor.

Surrounded by scrapbooks and pictures recording the years 1945 to 1949 when she was Indiana's First Lady, the widow of Governor Ralph F. Gates talked of days which were exciting, exacting and memorable.

"It never occurred to me as a girl that I ever would be involved in politics," she said at the home in Columbia City, Indiana, where she and her late husband moved as newlyweds in 1919.

Born at South Whitley May 1, 1891, the daughter of Prince Albert and Nina Briant Edwards attended South Whitley schools. She and Governor Gates met during high school, and their families were friends.

She graduated from the University of Chicago with a degree in education and taught one year at Roll (near Hartford City) before going to Muncie Central High School as an English teacher. She was there five years and was on the staff of Hiram House, Cleveland, following a summer at Cornell University.

Meanwhile, her husband-to-be joined the law firm of his father, Benton Gates, following graduation from the University of Michigan law school. The couple was married after he returned from World War I. As a Navy lieutenant, he was head of the U.S. Navy air station at LeCroisic, France.

In 1931 Gates was Indiana commander of the American Legion. He was a delegate to the Republican national convention in 1928, 1936 and 1940, and he became Republican state chairman in 1941.

In 1944 he became his party's first successful nominee for governor in 12 years. At $8,000 he was Indiana's highest paid governor until Governor Henry F. Schricker received $12,000 during his second term.

Recalling campaign months, Mrs. Gates said: "I went along with Ralph to some of the dinners, but mostly I stayed at home with our daughter, Pat, who was a high school senior and planning to enter Indiana University in September, 1945. It was an exciting time. Certainly a highlight was the reception for Ralph in Columbia City after his nomination. What warmth and enthusiasm!

"We were the last First Family to live in the Fall Creek residence back of the Marott Hotel," Mrs. Gates said, remembering their move to Indianapolis. "Some people thought it was a garage! The residence was in bad condition, and the housing arrangement was unusual. You see, the city owned the house, and the city gave notice for us to get out."

Thumbing through pictures of the old "mansion," now razed, Mrs. Gates said a committee was named by the legislature to find another residence. The Trimble house at 4343 North Meridian Street was purchased for $72,000.

"It, too, needed repair, but that was no time to talk of such things," she commented as she showed photos of the house and the iron fence which she saved from destruction.

"We managed without many changes for there was little money, no materials and few experienced workmen because they were either in the war or war production.

"I remember the 'spirit of the wind' art above the fireplace which didn't lend itself to formal decor. My aunt and the minister's wife thought it was immoral, so we painted over that. Later, during another administration, a marble fireplace was built."

So many people wanted to see the new house — erroneously called the mansion, according to Mrs. Gates. There were three teas each week with a total of as many as 900 guests.

"People wanted to see upstairs as well as down, so they were all over the place," the nonagenarian recalled. "They were all well meaning, but preparation for so many crowds required a lot of work. Women would come in hurriedly, toss their wraps aside and announce, "I am supposed to pour!" Once some legislators even edged into the shower.

"Finally we set guidelines so people from the entire state could be included. For instance, one tea for wives of bankers, dentists, doctors and one for Business and Professional Clubs all over Indiana."

Festive occasions were recalled by Mrs. Gates. A big Christmas tree was decorated each year in time for holiday dinners for the Indianapolis and Indiana Assembly Women's clubs. The late Mrs. Arthur Robinson, wife of the U.S. Senator, was among faithful hostesses.

"Fortunately Viola Smith, my cook, was resourceful, for she and I had to do most of the cooking for dinners and parties," Mrs. Gates reminisced. "There were few caterers during wartime. Home canned fruit and vegetables which I brought from Columbia City helped to supplement ration books.

"Because there was so little space for sit-down dinners, I bought a lot of trays for buffets, but my mother looked with disfavor on trays, so we set tables in the lower level — the basement."

In 1945 Mrs. Walter Bedell Smith, wife of the general who was chief of staff under General Dwight W. Eisenhower, was greeted by more than 100 women at a reception in the governor's residence. The former Indianapolis woman graduated from St. Agnes Academy in 1911.

"I remember I wore a corsage of war savings stamps on my silk print dress," Mrs. Gates said.

Newspapers at that time described teas in detail.

The Indianapolis Star said: "Fragile tea roses centered the long tea table. Silver and china mirrored the candlelight. All sorts of little cakes and sandwiches were served. There were pink hearts, green diamonds and white circle 'goodies' around the table."

The Indianapolis Times said of the guest of honor: "A gracious lady, tall and slim, wearing a cool-looking silk print dress with black and gold figures on an off-white background, a black broad-brimmed straw hat, white kid gloves and a purple orchid on her shoulder, Mrs. Smith smilingly greeted and shook the hands of many guests."

The Russell Whites were to be hosts for Admiral and Mrs. Chester W. Nimitz in Indianapolis in October, 1946, when he came to officiate at ceremonies for Battleship Indiana. But there was an SOS call to Mrs. Gates.

"My father has fractured his hip! Can you take the Nimitzes?"

"We hurriedly changed bedrooms for better accommodations and were delighted to have them," Mrs. Gates recalled.

Among other guests were General and Mrs. Mark Clark; General Henry Leonard, hero of the Boxer Rebellion who was Governor Gates' commanding officer in World War I; and Prof. Raymond Moley, Columbia University, one of Franklin D. Roosevelt's brain trust aides.

Mrs. Gates remembered, too, visits of Van Johnson, Frank Sinatra, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans and many other entertainers who helped with charity benefits while in Indianapolis.

"Presiding at the teas and luncheons and accompanying Ralph to meetings and dinners was almost full-time," Mrs. Gates said. "We did go to Indiana University often while Pat was in college, and we returned to Columbia City and South Whitley where Ralph's mother and my mother lived."

Mrs. Gates paid tribute to Ben Scott, the caretaker who had living quarters over the garage. He not only tended beds of roses, asters and flowers for all seasons, but took care of Skeeter, her toy Boston bulldog who moved with the family from Columbia City.

"The dog put his paws on a chair awaiting food each evening, but there is one thing you can't teach a dog and that is not to bury bones in the governor's yard!" Mrs. Gates said.

"James Buchanan III, 70-year-old Indianapolis realtor, who at 24 became butler and chauffeur for us, has been a friend for life," the former First Lady said. "We still keep in touch, and he has been successful in business. He drove more than 200,000 miles for us, and Ralph tried out many of his speeches on him as they rode together.

"Our son, Robert, was in the Navy in the South Pacific when his father was inaugurated, but we had a reception at the residence in July, 1948, a few weeks after his marriage to Harriet Brown in Nashville.

There were no 500-Mile Races during World War II years, but beginning in 1946, Gov. and Mrs. Gates took guests, or were invited by friends, to the great Speedway spectacle.

"We went early and took baskets of food for the entire day," she recalled.

Looking back at the four years her husband served as governor, Mrs. Gates said, "It took a lot of doing, what with many problems of state and national recovery after the war.

"Although there was little time for me to work in needed programs for women and other citizens, I was very much interested in helping girls at the Girls School at Clermont and in making it possible to build youth recreation centers," she said. "And I agreed with Ralph on the need for more mental health facilities."

During his administration, state departments were created to deal with problems of revenue, flood control, veterans' affairs and traffic safety. He pushed construction of the Northern Indiana Children's Hospital, the Norman Beatty Hospital and the Larue Carter Hospital. The Department of Commerce was innovated.

"When he returned to Columbia City and law practice, Ralph still discussed politics on the phone about 50 percent of the time — make that 80 percent," Mrs. Gates said. "He was national committeeman 14 years, and politics was a big part of his life."

She said they spent a lot of time at their Crooked Lake summer home. Shortly before he died in 1978, a beautiful wooded ravine near their summer home was dedicated as the Ralph Gates Nature Preserve — a gift of Pat and Phil McNagny and daughters.

Their son, Robert, and daughter, Patricia Gates McNagny — widow of Phil McNagny, Jr., Federal judge at Hammond — are both attorneys; and Robert is affiliated with the family law firm. Robert Gates followed in his father's footsteps, serving as 4th District Republican chairman and state American Legion commander. He was one of the aspirants for the Republican gubernatorial nomination in 1964.

Mrs. McNagny is now superior court judge of Whitley County.

There are seven granddaughters. They are: Julia Hurley, Elizabeth, Carolyn and Marcia McNagny, daughters of the McNagnys, and Anne Redman, Marjie Gates Giffin and Mary Ellen Gates, daughters of the Robert Gates. Margie Giffin is the author of the recently published book, "Water Runs Downhill," a history of the Indianapolis Water Company.

Mrs. Gates is still a sports fan. She loves baseball and basketball; and she still loves to read, especially Charles Dickens, historical fiction and mysteries. But eye problems make large-print books and circulating library records necessary much of the time.

"I have a simple arrangement for my life now," Mrs. Gates said. "The children come often, take me to dinner frequently and take time to really visit. I pay a boy to run errands, and he goes to the grocery for staples. Every two or three weeks one of my granddaughters or a woman who helps me drives me to market to select fruit, vegetables and frozen foods. I still love to cook."

Mrs. Gates greets guests with coffee and homemade cookies, often oven-warm, and loves to show pictures of the family, especially the chubby-cheeked babies. She points with pride to heirlooms like the floor to ceiling mirror which belonged to her father.

As guests leave she offers a bag of cookies and apples "to eat on the way home," and in summer she tucks pink painted daisies in tissue paper, ready to put in a vase.

Kathryn Louisea Heiliger Craig
(1953 - 1957)

"We moved into the Governor's Mansion so quickly after inauguration that when I told George to come to 4343 North Meridian Street that night, he said, 'But we don't live there yet!'"

"Yes, your clothes are there, I assured him," Kathryn Craig recalled in an interview at their 100-year-old house at Brazil.

"The rush in moving from our Indianapolis home at 135 North Hampton Drive was the immediate preparation for our trip to Washington to attend the inauguration of President Eisenhower," she explained. "The Schrickers (second term governor and Mrs. Henry F. Schricker) had moved out, and we were supposed to move in at once."

Plans for the Washington trip were not as simple for the Craigs as they might have been for some families. Their daughter, Margie, was just three years old, and getting a live-in nurse-housekeeper for a little girl in new surroundings is not easy. Their son, John, was a high school student.

"But we got a state trooper to stay on the place, and we felt better as we boarded the train," Mrs. Craig reminisced. "I had packed a black lace gown for the Eisenhower ball — it's someplace in the attic — but as it turned out, we didn't stay for the ball. We decided to come back after the formal inaugural ceremonies.

"When we got to the train station on our way back to Indianapolis, there was a small crowd bidding Harry and Bess Truman goodby as they left for Kansas City. Some people were in tears. We got back and found Margie and everything fine, and I put away both the black gown and the white wool suit with custom-made hat that I wore for George's inauguration."

Kathryn Louisea Heiliger Craig was born Mary 10, 1911, in Brazil, the daughter of Charles and Anna Heiliger. She was the oldest of five children with two brothers and two sisters.

Indiana's governor, George North Craig, was born in Brazil August 6, 1909. He and Kathryn went through high school together. He was one year ahead of her, and they began dating when he enrolled in pre-law school at the University of Arizona, Tucson. She attended Indiana State Teachers College for two years.

"I loved art but was persuaded to major in physical education," she said. "Years later I studied art, and now I spend much leisure time painting with oils and water colors. When we travel, it's much easier to take all the materials I need for water colors; and this hobby has become a part of my life. I have a studio upstairs."

"George and I were engaged when he completed his work in Arizona," she continued, "and we were married August 29, 1931, just before he entered his senior year at Indiana University Law School. We spent the first year of our marriage on the I.U. campus. Then we came back to Brazil where George joined his father who was an active attorney here for 63 years."

Craig practices law from a suite of offices on the second floor of the First Bank & Trust Co. building on U.S. 40 in downtown Brazil. With him are two associates, his son, John Craig, and Jeffrey Boyll.

"George's law career was interrupted by his call to active duty in World War II," Mrs. Craig remembered. "He was with the 80th Division, 3rd Army commanded by General George Patton, Jr., which was involved in the great dash across northern France after breaking out of the German containment near St. Lo."

Craig left the service as a lieutenant colonel and became active in the American Legion. He was the first World War II veteran to be elected national commander.

"We moved to Indianapolis in 1950, and George became a member of the law firm of White, Raub, Craig and Forrey," Mrs. Craig said. "It seemed advisable with many Indianapolis activities to live there."

Craig was elected governor on the Republican ticket in 1952, serving in the office from 1953-1957.

"I remember that we had had so many blackouts during the war that for some reason the Governor's Mansion seemed dark," Mrs. Craig said. "I decided to try to make it as light as possible with color and furnishings."

She told of the many requests for meetings at the Governor's Mansion and the arrangements involved.

"I remember Tri Kappa sorority and many other service groups, and I was always delighted to have them," she said. "Festive flowers, china and silver always seemed to add an extra bit of cheer to these occasions.

"One elderly woman — the mother of a club member — clasped my hand as she was leaving and said, 'You just can't imagine what it means to me at 80 to meet our First Lady and be entertained in Indiana's Mansion'."

Mrs. Craig said it was difficult at times to arrange nap times for a three-year-old. Often the child awakened and came downstairs where she got more attention than she needed.

"People love to spoil a little girl, but they do so with such charm that in our case Margie and I just took it in stride," the former First Lady said.

"I don't think I'll ever forget the early days of one Indiana State Fair," she said. "John had graduated from Brazil High School that spring, and there was discussion about whether he would attend Vanderbilt University at Nashville, Tennessee, or Indiana University. He leaned toward Vanderbilt, but his father hoped for I.U.

"Just before the State Fair George decided he really hadn't spent much time with John so that they could talk things over, so they took off for Michigan on a fishing trip.

"Well, Indianapolis newspapers had headlines: 'Governor Goes Fishing as Fair Starts.' And I began getting phone calls wanting me to welcome women to the fair, welcome farmers, talk to 4-H Club members and officiate at all sorts of events. One newspaper then asked, 'Will she apologize for the Governor?"

"I wasn't a speechmaker, but I wrote out a little message and went around from pavilion to exhibits greeting big groups. But for the Farmers' Day parade, I was asked to drive a pony cart, an event that went fairly well until the high school bands leading the parade began to play loud, fast marches. What a day! I don't know whether the pony or I was more scared and confused."

Mrs. Craig said she attended some sessions of the legislature, and the Indiana Assembly Women met at the mansion several times.

Some of the accomplishments of Craig while governor included: Establishment of a Department of Correction, reorganization of the Department of Health to provide greater mental health care, establishment of the School of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University, upgrading of the Indiana National Guard and creation of the Indiana Youth Center.

Craig was featured on the cover of Time Magazine in 1955 — characterized as one of Eisenhower's favorite young Republicans.

A few months after Craig left the Statehouse irregularities were uncovered in the State Highway Department, and several of his close advisers were convicted of bribery in acquiring state highway construction contracts. News commentators later said that Craig was a man with good intentions who was a victim of his own friends.

After Craig finished his term as governor, the family spent nine years in Washington where he practiced law. They lived in Bethesda, Maryland. Mrs. Craig remembers that as an eight-year-old Margie had little friends who could cross quiet streets much different from the fast traffic on Meridian in front of the Governor's Mansion.

For a short time, the Craigs then lived in California.

"When Margie was 17 she wanted to enroll in the Univerity of the Seven Seas sponsored by Chapman College, Orange, California." Mrs. Craig said. "Margie hadn't yet graduated from Annondale High School in Maryland where she was a good student, a cheerleader and in many activities. She did extra work for remaining credits, and in college she majored in communications. After the Seven Seas trip, she transferred to the I.U. School of Journalism."

She is now public affairs officer in Los Angeles for Pacific Southern Airlines.

The Craigs celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1981.

"We love Brazil — the little city which we call home," Mrs. Craig said. "The population is about 9,000, and things haven't changed much since we were high school students. We have many friends, and our home is such a relaxing place.

"While I paint, George takes care of his German Shepherds and tends a vegetable garden near the house. We take our RV to the Florida Everglades, and George loves to fish for tarpon. In other seasons, we sometimes drive to Canada for fishing and sightseeing. But we look back fondly on the days in the Governor's Mansion."

Barbara Winterble Handley

(1957 - 1961)

When she was a child, there were hardly enough hours in the day for lively Barbara Jean Winterble to participate in all the things she enjoyed.

"I loved games, playmates, activity," Mrs. Harold W. Handley, wife of Indiana's governor, recalled. "There was always something interesting to do, someone to talk to or just a beautiful woods to explore."

The former First Lady, known for her expressive eyes and smile, looked back on girlhood days and those of the Handley administration during an interview in her Indianapolis apartment.

She was born October 13, 1919, the daughter of Freda Keys and William F. Winterble, in Richland Center, Wisconsin.

"My grandfather's name was VanWinterble — Dutch," she said. "When he was about seven years old, he was placed with other children on a ship leaving Holland for New York City.

"He never talked much about this, for most of it he didn't remember. But he did know that during the time the Orphan Train was to come West from New York, he was found in a crate by Theodore Roosevelt (collector of the port), the father of President Theodore Roosevelt.

"With many other children — mostly boys and orphans — he was placed on the train which came through the Midwest, stopping here and there (it stopped at Indianapolis) for farm families to adopt the boys and girls as foster children. Some were wanted because an extra farm hand was needed.

"My grandfather continued on the train to Iowa," the former First Lady said.

Mrs. Handley reminisced about the talents of her grandfather who as an adult could read Greek and Latin. He read Shakespeare and was a history student and self-taught pianist.

"I just remember what a joy he was," she added.

Her maternal great-grandfather was an English whaler.

The Winterble family moved to Madison, Wisconsin, during her early school days, and she and her sister, Martha (Mrs. Theodore Erickson) and brother, Bill (William) grew up there. They lived in a large house near a lake and rolling hills. Music, sports, books and parties were important parts of their life.

Barbara spent her high school years at Brownmoor School for Girls (now Bishop's Lodge), a ranch school at Santa Fe, New Mexico. Following graduation, she attended Colorado College at Colorado Springs and then transferred to Pasadena (California) Playhouse.

"I liked the opportunity for instruction in voice and theater there," she said. "I studied modern dance with Martha Graham and Humphrey Weidman."

Both teachers were noted dancers.

Following study at Mills College, Oakland, California, she went to New York where she took private voice lessons.

"Then I decided I needed experience in teaching, so I was on the staff at my former boarding school — Brownmoor — where I taught dancing and fencing and served as buyer for the school.

"That was valuable experience — very practical — for I bought clothing, bedding, food and cleaning supplies. It was excellent background for family life later and for the Governor's Mansion where many items were needed," Mrs. Handley said.

Plans changed when World War II began. She went to American University, Washington, D.C., to train for work with the Red Cross.

"I was assigned to a post in the Mohave Desert in southeast California where I served with Gen. (George) Patton," she said.

The California desert had been selected by Patton for building a station hospital for soldiers injured in desert fighting "so their whole systems wouldn't have to get used to something else,'' Mrs. Handley explained.

''I was a psychiatric social worker and recreational worker with the field hospital. I didn't go with my unit overseas because I was too thin. I guess they thought I would fatten up in the desert.''

At an officers' club dance, she met Harold Handley of Indiana, who was a major with his battalion. They became friends, and she never dated anyone else after that.

Handley was born in LaPorte, Indiana, on November 27, 1909. After graduation from Indiana University in 1932, he became vice president of the Rustic Hickory Furniture Manufacturing Co. in LaPorte and, later, president of the Grapette Bottling Co. in Hammond.

In 1932 he helped organize the LaPorte County Young Republicans. His political career in the state senate (1940-41) was interrupted by his army service. He resigned his senate seat and was in the 85th Division of the Army.

The couple married in 1944, and Mrs. Handley returned to Madison, Wisconsin. Their son, Kenneth, was born there in 1945.

When Lt. Col. Handley was discharged from the army, the couple lived at LaPorte where he was president of Darling Motion Picture Sales and again was affiliated with Grapette Bottling Company.

Martha, their daughter, was born at LaPorte in 1948.

Politics reappeared on the Handley agenda very soon, and he was re-elected to the state senate in 1948. He became lieutenant governor in 1952 and governor in 1956.

''Politics was new to me,'' Mrs. Handley said. ''But with Harold's enthusiasm, I was swept right into this very important part of state government.

''The Ed Ziegners — still my wonderful friends — were among those who were neighbors when we bought a house at 4801 Park Avenue, Indianapolis. And there were the Noble Biddingers, the Joseph Hannas, the John R. Carlsons and Dr. Roy Connor, minister of the Meridian Heights Presbyterian Church, and his wife, Lily.

''Then there was the month I'll never forget — December, 1957 — when we were getting ready to move, trying to sell our house, getting more mail than we ever had seen and getting clothes ready for the governor's inauguration and the trip to Washington for Eisenhower's inauguration,'' Mrs. Handley said.

She wore an oatmeal-colored wool suit, apricot chiffon blouse, small hat of beige chiffon and a mink stole to her husband's inauguration. Governor Handley became known from that day on for his blue and white bow tie.

"I wish sometimes I hadn't given away the pretty gowns I wore in Washington," she lamented. "They were in good hands — at Indiana University in the state costume collection — but I think Martha would like to have them."

She was speaking of a deep-red satin floor-length ball gown by Harvey Berin which she wore to the inaugural ball in Washington's National Guard Armory. The other gown which she wore to one of the formal parties at the Eisenhower inauguration was an ice blue peau de soie sheath. With it she wore violet satin slippers and rhinestone and pearl jewelry designed for her as a gift from the dancing club at LaPorte.

"I loved the activity at the Mansion at 4343 North Meridian," the former First Lady said. "Oh, there were frantic days, but so many appreciative people. Looking back, the role was one big, full-time 15-hour-a-day job — sometimes more hours!"

Mrs. Handley entertained more than 90,000 people during their four years there. She remembered one tea when 700 guests came. The governor made a luncheon speech that day during which he said, "My wife is having a little tea party this afternoon. Why don't you all go?"

"They all came, and the honor guest couldn't get from the front door to the tea table. There wasn't room to move," Mrs. Handley explained. "But most everyone had something to eat. We cut sandwiches in quarters."

She recalled family events, especially the Christmas of 1957 when the entire family came for 4 o'clock dinner. Her mother, the governor's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Handley, brothers, sisters and children.

"We had a beautiful Christmas tree each year and shared it with friends, relatives and many other guests," she said.

Once when the Handleys were expecting four visiting Presbyterian ministers for lunch, a young man came to the door and Mrs. Handley invited him to await the arrival of the others.

"Bobby Kennedy had arrived unexpectedly!" Mrs. Handley said. "I didn't recognize him and thought he was one of the ministers."

The Handley children were of school-age during the four years in the mansion, and there was the problem of keeping them properly dressed at all times.

"I don't know what I would have done without Susie Hicks, the housekeeper, and Liz Caskey, the cook," Mrs. Handley said. "What wonderful people! They always noticed when Martha needed a sash or hair ribbon, or when Kenneth needed shoe laces, or for that matter when they needed a change of clothes and a hair brush."

The governor occasionally played the organ late at night when he came home from a meeting. If he continued very long, sleeping guests sometimes put on robes and sat on the stairs to listen.

Mrs. Handley remembers the annual Easter Egg hunt for crippled children at the mansion as one of the most touching events.

"The children had so much fun, and we always had the Gordon Pipers to play," she said. "Many women and men helped, but I remember Mrs. John Tucker and her committees were always of great service. There were golden eggs and finders received toy rabbits. Contributions to a wishing well aided children at Crossroads Rehabilitation Center."

Mrs. Handley said that her mother was a great inspiration to her during these busy years.

"She had a college degree, but she went back a good many years later to Northwestern University and got a master's degree.

"Then she phoned once and asked what I would think about her buying beautiful 'Keystone,' built in 1853 in Madison, Wisconsin, and in need of restoration. Of course I thought it was a splendid idea, for she had such good taste and I knew she wanted to do much of the work herself.

"We were privileged many times later to enjoy that gracious home overlooking a lake and a wide expanse of countryside."

Handley's administration was made difficult because of the state's need of revenue, and the gross income tax was increased by 50 percent. This was the first major state tax increase since the 1930s.

During his term construction began on a 13-floor state office building, Purdue University got a veterinary school, $2 million was earmarked for land at the Lake Michigan port site and a $1 billion interstate road construction program was started.

In 1958 Handley was defeated for the U.S. Senate by Vance Hartke, then mayor of Evansville.

In 1961 Handley became president of an Indianapolis advertising and public relations firm.

He died, August 29, 1972, at 62 in Rawlins, Wyoming, where he was vacationing with his wife. He is buried in Pine Lake Cemetery at LaPorte.

Kenneth Handley, their son, is married and lives in Indianapolis where he is associated with the firm of Banker Systems, Inc. He is a DePauw University graduate and a member of his father's fraternity, Delta Tau Delta.

Martha, their daughter, a graduate of Indiana University, is a member of Delta Gamma sorority and lives in Seattle, Washington, where she is a public relations administrator for the state.

Mrs. Handley continues her many interests in volunteer work including mental health and the Red Cross for which she has worked 44 years.

"But although I'm still interested in many worthy volunteer efforts, I'm not as active as a few years ago," she said. "I read a great deal and enjoy friends and family."

In her apartment overlooking a small lake are prize-winning art pieces created by her daughter, a Donald Mattison portrait of Governor Handley and other art which means much to her. An intricately carved walnut table made by her Grandfather Winterble is among treasured furnishings.

Virginia Homann Welsh

(1961 - 1965)

Matthew E. Welsh and Virginia Homann grew up in Vincennes and Washington, Indiana, cities just 19 miles apart; and they met at Indiana University where she was getting her baccalaureate degree and he was attending Indiana University Law School.

"The story goes that he noticed me when I was in the Union Building at I.U. when he was there with a group of lawyers," she said. "But we had met. He called and asked to take me to a dance during the Christmas holidays."

Soon after the Yule season she returned a fraternity pin she had been wearing and continued to date the future governor.

"I was living in the Kappa Kappa Gamma house where I spent happy days," she said as she spoke of college experiences during an interview in their stately home on a tree-lined Indianapolis street.

"Chancellor Herman B Wells then was dean of the School of Business, and I remember a wonderful class with him in the history of economics. When the weather was good, he would swing into the room in knickers and with all his golf clubs, ready to take off immediately after class for the game he loved so well."

The daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Fred Homann, she was born December 27, 1912, and she remembers "a wonderful small town childhood." She and her brother, Fred, Jr., were avid tennis players on their home court. She sang in the church choir and learned to play bridge and 500 Rummy through her mother's competent instruction. Her father was a dentist.

She graduated from I.U., majoring in French, English and social science.

Matthew E. Welsh was born September 15, 1912, in Detroit, Michigan, the son of Matthew William and Inez Empson Welsh, both native Hoosiers. He graduated from Lincoln High School in Vincennes in 1930 and enrolled in the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania where he received his baccalaureate degree in 1934. He attended Indiana University Law School at Bloomington for two years, transferred to the University of Chicago for his degree in 1937 and was admitted to the bar.

"We were married in September, 1937; and as a wedding present, Matt's father gave us the first prefabricated house in southern Indiana," the gracious former First Lady said. "It was on a pretty piece of land and was wonderfully built. It is still there in good condition, and I think it cost about $4,000, but now is worth well over $50,000.

"After the twins (Janet and Kathryn) was born in 1942, we moved to our Vincennes home across from the courthouse where it still is a landmark in territory rich in Indiana history.

Welsh opened a law office and became interested in politics. His father was a securities broker active in the Democratic party.

The young attorney was elected in 1940 to the Indiana House of Representatives and re-elected in 1942, but he resigned the following year to serve as an officer in the United States Navy.

He returned to civilian life in 1946, and in 1950 President Truman named him United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. In 1954 he became a state senator from Knox and Daviess counties; and in the 1957 and 1959 Senate sessions, he was Democratic minority leader.

In 1960 Welsh won the Democratic gubernatorial nomination and election in 1960 as Indiana's governor.

"Politics seemed to be a part of our lives, but moving into the Governor's Mansion at 4343 North Meridian Street was a very special occasion," Mrs. Welsh said.

Appropriately enough, the day she looked back on activity at the official residence, her husband's new book, "View from the Statehouse: Recollections and Reflections, 1961 - 1965," was receiving plaudits.

''We invited Girl Scouts from all over the Indianapolis area to tour the mansion — two days each week,'' she recalled. ''Scout leaders and often mothers came with them. They were escorted upstairs and down and told about Indiana history, the governor's work and the house. We gave them little printed brochures about the state.

''Many of them wrote compositions about the tour and very often they would telephone, even at night, to ask questions. They liked to know about furniture, especially the beautifully made Steinway piano, and many times they asked to speak to the governor. He answered whenever he was there; but sometimes college students wanted names or national figures, and if he didn't have initials and positions at hand, he referred them to proper sources.''

Two pets played an active part in daily life at the mansion. Perky, the parakeet, had a vocabulary of more than 30 words. He flew about the house calling, ''Where's Matt?'' and ''Vote Democratic!'' These bird calls startled some of the Goldwater women who came to tea. They brought little packets of Goldwater soap for the bathrooms.

''Our seven-year-old dachshund made friends with many guests,'' the former First Lady said. ''He was a diplomat.''

Mrs. Welsh has fond memories of Helen Hayes who was guest at a tea given in the mansion by a group which sponsored her appearance at Clowes Hall for a benefit.

''What a beautiful and talented person!'' the former First Lady commented.

''Margaret Truman was in a play at Avondale in the theater in the round, and she relaxed with us at the mansion. She has wonderful qualities of both her father and mother, and I admire here for the manner in which she has been devoted to her family and at the same time pursued a career in writing.''

Mrs. Welsh remembered many other guests. Pierre Salinger was one of the most fascinating conversationalists. Ted Kennedy came for a press dinner and forget to bring a tux. Luci Johnson arrived to speak at a fund raiser during her father's run for president.

''The event was for Birch Bayh. Luci had just converted to Catholicism, and I took her to the cathedral.

''Each year we had 500-Mile Race guests — tall Clint Walker, Connie Francis, George Montgomery who took a fancy to Janet — who was flattered. Then there was Jane Mansfield, and someone remarked, 'What a beautiful face!' One of the male guests answered, 'I haven't got that far yet!'''

In 1961 the Gary Mothers of Twin Club for Indiana presented Mrs. Welsh with a plaque signifying honorary membership in the club. Several hundred members of the Women's Auxiliary to the Indiana Dental Association honored her. Mental Health, Cystic Fibrosis, Symphony groups, Heart Fund and many other organizations met at the mansion.

The Indiana University Women's Club sponsored its annual membership tea at the residence, and members of the Indianapolis branch of the State Assembly Women's Club were guests at an early holiday tea.

''Since we did not limit the use of the mansion by the people of Indiana, we had a full schedule of teas, coffees, tours and receptions every week. There was little time left for concentration on one particular area of service. Improving the facilities for mental health was a goal I wished could have been accomplished,'' Mrs. Welsh said.

''The role of First Lady was almost a full-time job. We did, however, reserve two weeks at Christmas for our family.''

The Welshes' daughters were Indiana University students during the administration of their father, and the mansion often was home away from home for I.U. friends.

''The girls enjoyed those years. They campaigned for their father and took part in many events, but they stayed themselves.''

Kathryn graduated from I.U., majoring in political science, and Janet transferred to Washington University, St. Louis, for nursing school. A registered nurse, she married Dr. William Clendenin, a psychiatrist. They live in St. Louis and have three children: Kathryn, 11; William 9, and Matthew, 3.

Kathryn lives in Indianapolis and is on the staff of an insurance company.

Following four years in the mansion, the Welshes lived in an apartment before purchasing their home. He resumed his law practice and was named by President Lyndon Johnson as United States chairman of the International Joint Commission — United States and Canada — which oversees the boundary waterways with Canada.

The former governor now is senior partner in the law firm of Bingham Summers Welsh & Spilman with offices in the Indiana National Bank Tower. There are 40 attorneys in the firm.

''The years of activity in government were wonderful because of the thoughtfulness of so many people,'' Mrs. Welsh said. ''Looking back, the experiences were invaluable. There were many real treasures. And, of course, we still have these splendid associations.''

Mrs. Welsh even includes 8,000 miles on the campaign trail as special days. ''How else would I have met Indiana women in their own towns, cities and homes!'' she said.

The former First Lady said she really enjoyed campaigning — working for and with her husband.

"We made many friends and have continued our contacts since Matt left office. Campaigning also gave me a thorough education on the history of our state."

Asked if there were times when she didn't agree with legislation which her husband endorsed, she said, "No, I have always felt that my husband's education as an attorney and the years he served in both houses of the legislature made him well prepared to make wise decisions for the good of all the people in Indiana."

She is active in Women for Better Government, the State Assembly Woman's Club, the Indianapolis Museum Society, the Northside group of the Indianapolis Symphony Committee and other organizations.

"But we take time now for family and friends, as well, and plan for relaxation both at home and away."

She told of an experience in a store when she was purchasing a stereo.

"I found one I liked and told the salesman that I would take it if someone could put it in my car," she said. "He agreed, and I asked the cost so that I could write a check.

"He named the cost and said, 'Oh, yes, and we add on the Matt Welsh sales tax.'"

She wrote the check and handed it to the manager. He looked startled as he saw her signature, "Mrs. Matthew Welsh."

"Do you tell all your customers that we have a Matt Welsh tax?" she inquired.

The chagrined manager assured her they didn't.

In 1963, the two percent tax was passed by the House, and in the Senate the vote on the sales tax - corporate gross income tax bill came up a 24-24 tie. Lieutenant-Governor Richard Ristine had to break the tie. He voted aye.

Former Governor Welsh, in his book, said: "I particularly pay tribute to Lieutenant Governor Ristine, who acted courageously even though he knew he was jeopardizing his own political future."

Ristine ran for governor in 1964 but was defeated by Roger Branigin.

Edward Ziegner, political editor of The Indianapolis News, in December, 1982, wrote of Ristine breaking the tie vote: "He honestly felt the state needed the revenue for education and other purposes. He was right. It did. People also said the sales tax vote defeated him for governor in 1964. It did not. The hopeless candidacy of Barry Goldwater beat him, and Indiana lost forever the chance to have a superior governor.''

During his term of office Welsh created the Civil Rights Commission and named several Negroes to important state posts. He issued an executive order barring racial discrimination by private businesses licensed by the state.

He created a full-time parole board, work camps for youthful prisoners and youth camps at Muscatatuck State Park for unemployed youths.

Throughout his term as governor Welsh was known as a strong leader of his party. He worked with the party chairman, Manfred Core, and recruited capable candidates for the legislature. Many of them won, even in Republican areas.

At the request of Lyndon Johnson in 1964, Welsh ran as favorite son candidate in the Democratic primary to combat the challenge of George Wallace. In 1972 Welsh won the Democratic nomination for governor again, but George McGovern was the Presidential candidate, and Otis R. Bowen was the Republican candidate for governor. It was not Welsh's year.

Josephine Mardis Branigin

(1965 - 1969)

“Roger loved Indiana so much that he took a new hold on the steering wheel when he crossed the state line on our way home from meetings.” Josephine Branigin said of her husband, Indiana’s governor.

“He had opportunities to take national positions, but he had such great affection for home on Hoosier soil that he spent his entire life close to the people who meant so much to him.”

In her beautifully decorated apartment at Lafayette, she follows a leisurely planned calendar of activities — luncheons with friends, get-togethers with family, volunteer service and plenty of time for reading.

Classic pastel cream and blue furnishings in her large living room provide the setting for traditional touches, for paintings by Hoosier artists and needlepoint pillows which she loves to make. In the foyer is a Randolph Coats painting of Governor Branigin, and in her bedroom is the Noble Bretzman candid photograph remembered by many Hoosiers — the Governor wearing spectacles, at work on his papers.

“Both those artists knew Roger so well that they could show him without poses — just as he really was,” she reflected.

“Roger never had a boyhood ambition to be governor — although somehow that word was carried along by the press. But once he was in the running he wanted to win, and once elected he wanted to do a good job,'' she said. ''We both had simple, family-oriented childhoods and just the usual experiences of school and college days.''

Mrs. Branigin was born February 4, 1908, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Mardis of Shelbyville. She was named for her father. Her sisters and brother, now deceased, were Margaret (Mrs. Harold Bryan of Findlay, Ohio), Edith (Mrs. Harry Ulrich of Lafayette) and Robert Mardis of Goshen.

She graduated from Shelbyville High School and enrolled at Western College at Oxford, Ohio.

''I didn't care a great deal about school there,'' she recalled. ''Classes were interesting enough, but rules were very rigid. We couldn't leave campus without a chaperone, and about the only place to go was to a little sweet shop where we all gained weight.''

She transferred to Franklin College as a sophomore, was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority, majored in mathematics and biology and graduated with honors.

Branigin, whose family roots in Indiana went back three generations, was born at Franklin July 26, 1902 — the third of four sons of the family of lawyer Elba L. Branigin.

He graduated from Franklin College in 1923, after attending Franklin public schools, and received his law degree from Harvard in 1926. Between 1926 and 1929, he practiced law in Franklin and served as a deputy prosecutor for Johnson and Brown counties. He sought, but failed to get, the Democratic nomination for state representative in 1928.

In 1928 when Josephine Mardis was a junior at Franklin, the man who was to be governor asked her for a date for his fraternity (Phi Delta Theta) boat dance at Hanover. Their friendship continued, and they were married in 1929.

In 1930 Branigin became affiliated with the Federal Land Bank and the Farm Credit Administration at Louisville. Later he became head of general counsel. He was invited to accept other positions in the department in Washington, D.C.

''But he didn't want to live there or in New York,'' Mrs. Branigin said. ''He wanted to live in Indiana. When he was asked to join the law firm of Stuart and Devol in Lafayette in 1938, he accepted at once and Lafayette became our home.''

During World War II, Branigin was chief of the legal division of the U.S. Army transportation corps. After three years he retired as a lieutenant colonel and was awarded the Legion of Merit.

Campaigning did not come naturally for Mrs. Branigin; but when her husband was the Democratic nominee for governor in 1964, she joined the petticoat caravan of candidates' wives which covered 1,000 miles. Again in 1968 when Branigin ran as a favorite-son candidate for president in the Democratic primary, she toured the state with Agnes F. Woolery, state Democratic vice chairman, attending teas, luncheons, receptions and dinners. Robert F. Kennedy was Indiana's choice in the presidential nomination.

When Branigin was inaugurated as Indiana's chief executive January 11, 1965, a new style of living began for him and his wife.

"To me, the role of First Lady was a part-time job," Mrs. Branigin said. "My job was to make a home for the man who was elected governor for four years.

"The role of First Lady was just that," she continued. "I tried my best to represent Indiana and the governor — to be ready and able to serve where needed. But what many people do not realize is that there may be calls 24 hours a day, unexpected ones."

"We both enjoyed the privacy of home; and although we lived in the governor's residence at 4343 North Meridian Street, we tried to continue our usual routine," Mrs. Branigin reflected. "Roger liked to answer the phone and the door, and often did just that.

"Callers were surprised to hear his voice or meet him at the door. He also liked plain cooking and wanted everything he ate to be immediately recognizable and uncomplicated. So that is the way I cooked. We had help for the many teas and receptions at the residence, but I often prepared the food that Roger liked."

Many years before he became governor he was sought out as roastmaster, after-dinner speaker and toastmaster because his humor and wit came out so well that he made it seem easy.

"Today the things he said wouldn't seem humorous at all," Mrs. Branigin said. "Those were items of the time and place, pithy and funny at the moment he spoke, but suited only to that occasion. He also needled himself."

Once a woman telephoned the govenror's residence at 2 o'clock in the morning complaining about Indiana highways. Governor Branigin listened to her comments when she said she was calling from Lansing, Illinois. She talked on and on about driving every day on bad Indiana roads on her way to Indiana University at Gary. She assured the governor that Illinois roads were good from Lansing to Champaign.

"They why don't you go to school down at the University of Illinois?" he asked.

"Is this the governor speaking?" she said.

"Yes," he said.

"You sound like some smart aleck, and I'm going to call the governor's office in the morning," she said.

Branigin got to his office early the next day, answered the phone himself and, recognizing the woman's voice, altered his own and said he was the governor.

The woman complained of abusive treatment from some smart aleck on the governor's staff the night before and told the whole story again.

The governor said, "I think maybe the fellow last night did have a point."

"That voice is the same one," she said "(Expletive deleted.)"

"She was so mad she was spitting cotton," the governor said.

Mrs. Branigin told of the day a large group of Gary teachers came to Indianapolis to "march on the governor" for higher wages.

"They gathered outside the Statehouse shouting that they wanted to see the governor. Finally Roger sent a state policeman out to tell them that he would see a committee of three. He welcomed them, asked them to sit down and then asked the first man who entered, 'What do you teach?'

"'Government,'" he answered.

"'Good,'" said the governor. 'Then you certainly can answer this question. What can the governor of Indiana do to get higher wages for teachers?'"

"I don't know," said the teacher.

"Well, I don't know either,' said the governor. 'Now perhaps you will take that information out to the other teachers, and you can get back to your students and I can get back to my work.'"

"There were many requests to use the governor's residence for meetings of state and Indianapolis organizations," Mrs. Branigin said. "They would say, 'We always have had meetings there.'

"We set up guidelines. We provided the tea table, the cloth, flowers if in season in our yard and paper napkins with the state crest. The sponsoring group made arrangements for food.

"Even so, there often was confusion," she recalled. "The foyer at 4343 North Meridian Street was so small, there was no place for coats and people were all over the house."

The former First Lady said she enjoyed helping with as many worthwhile activities as possible.

She recalled a recognition tea sponsored by Crossroads Rehabilitation Center; a reception honoring Teen Tonics, high school students who were volunteers at the Cerebral Palsy Clinic and a meeting at which St. Vincent Guild planned a Centurion Ball. There also was a Valentine tea planned by the State Assembly Women's Club which three former First Ladies attended — Mrs. Harry Leslie, Mrs. Matthew Welsh and Mrs. Harold W. Handley.

"We often had visitors in the political area. Muriel Humphrey was a delightful guest," Mrs. Branigin said. "And from the theater we were happy to be host to our friend and Hoosier, Robert Wise, who along the way in Hollywood has created plenty of stars in musicals like 'The Sound of Music,' and 'West Side Story,' and science fiction and other films.

Once a telegram came to the mansion for Phil Harris, Hoosier comedian and a long-time friend, who was in Indianapolis for some event. Branigin knew Harris was at the Columbia Club.

"Roger went to the Western Union Office, got a Western Union hat and a bicycle and delivered the telegram," Mrs. Branigin recalled.

"Harris said, 'Why you simple minded . . .' Roger remembered with a grin."

"We never discussed pending legislation," the former First Lady said. "If I had a question about government, he took time to explain the subject. But since he was a lawyer, I never questioned about his cases, so it was natural that I didn't have queries about state business.

"At one time I decided to visit mental and penal institutions to see if some of the adverse criticisms about these places and the employees are true," Mrs. Branigin said.

"My first visit was ceremonial — my identity was known — so special care was taken to give me a formal tour. Everything, of course, was in good order.

"Then I made two unheralded visits to mental institutions, and I learned quickly that critiques should not be made by persons who do not have formal training or on-the-job training in this field. One employee, a kindly woman, had taken a group of residents to lunch and returned with them to their floor. Suddenly she realized that one woman was missing. She couldn't leave the group alone, and she had great difficulty getting someone to help her so that she could rescue the missing person. But she did find her.

"I questioned the open doors on toilets, but was told that this was a safety precaution to prevent someone from self-injury with closed door. In fact, I got answers to all of my questions; and I realized what difficult work these employees do for such a small salary. Not one time during my visits did I see a supervisor or anyone of upper echelon."

At home today, Mrs. Branigin said she has returned to her favorite clothes — sweaters, skirts and casual attire. She said that during her years in politics she chose appropriate dresses, suits and long, formal gowns needed for various events as Indiana's First Lady.

"But I prefer simple clothes and had little use for a number of formal dresses when Roger returned to Lafayette law practice in 1969," she said. "Now I dress comfortably and simply, ready for lunch with friends, visits with family or community service."

She is a volunteer one day a week in the surgery waiting room at Home Hospital, Lafayette.

"There are comfortable chairs in the room. We have coffee, and people under stress seem to appreciate having someone there. Sometimes they talk a little or ask a few questions, but more often they read or just sit quietly," she said. "Sometimes they ask for a chaplain, and we have one readily available."

Mrs. Branigin also is a volunteer in the gift shop at the Tippecanoe County Historical Association Museum. She is a member of Kappa Kappa Kappa service sorority and for many years was a volunteer at Lafayette's Southside Day Care Center.

Her sons, both attorneys, are Roger D. Branigin, Lafayette, and Robert M. Branigin, Franklin. Mrs. Branigin has seven grandchildren.

During Governor Branigin's administration, the poll tax and personal property tax on household goods were abolished, the "right to work" law was repealed, the state's first taxpayer-paid scholarship program was started and construction of Lake Michigan port became a reality.

After leaving office as governor, he resumed practice with his law firm, Stuart, Branigin, Ricks and Shilling.

Branigin died November 17, 1975, and is buried in Green Lawn Cemetery at Franklin.

Branigin presented all of his gubernatorial papers and much of his library to Franklin College. These are housed in the Branigin Room in the Hamilton Library at the college.

The Banta collection which was started at Franklin College as a gift from Phi Delta Theta Fraternity on its 100th birthday includes many books contributed by Branigin. The collection is named for an early Franklin judge, David Banta, who began a search for information about early Indiana history. The library is said to be the second best collection on the Northwest Territory in the nation.

Branigin spent many years working with historians and genealogists to collect valuable material for the Banta reference bank.

Patricia Dolfuss Whitcomb

(1969 - 1973)

Because she had no secretary when she became Indiana's First Lady in 1969, Patricia Dolfuss Whitcomb kept a complete calendar and datebook about events at the Governor's Mansion over a period of four years.

A glamourous brunette beauty, she had trouble convincing strangers that she was 39 and the mother of five children when her husband, Edgar D. Whitcomb, became Indiana's governor.

Mrs. Whitcomb was born Patricia Louise Dolfuss in St. Louis, but through the years has been better known by the nickname "Pat."

Her family moved to Greenfield, Indiana, where she graduated from high school. After graduation from Ward Belmont Junior College, Nashville, Tennessee, she worked in bridal and fashion bureaus and assisted with the college board program at an Indianapolis department store.

Whitcomb was born in 1917 in Hayden, Jennings County, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Whitcomb. He is a great-nephew of Governor James Whitcomb who was Indiana's chief executive from 1843 to 1848.

He attended Indiana University until the outbreak of World War II and then served as a fighter pilot in the Philippines. His book, "Escape from Corregidor'' published in 1958, is based on his hazardous war experiences. He had returned to combat duty after a second near-fatal period as a prisoner of war.

Whitcomb returned to Indiana University after the war and completed his law degree. For 14 years he practiced law in North Vernon, Seymour and Indianapolis, developing a political base.

While he was a state senator, he met Patricia Dolfuss. State lawmakers in 1951 often ate lunch in the Indianapolis department store where she modeled in the tea room.

They were married just four months after they met.

''Our first home was romantic but not practical,'' Mrs. Whitcomb recalled during a luncheon-interview at the Columbia Club. ''We lived in a log cabin at Traders Point north of Indianapolis,'' she said. ''Briefly we lived in North Vernon, and then we moved to Seymour to the big house which was our home for many years.''

The 14-room stucco house features soft blue carpeting, glistening chandeliers, a grand piano enjoyed by the children and many art pieces.

Mrs. John Whitcomb, the governor's mother, had an apartment in the six-bedroom house. The Whitcombs had a housekeeper and a menage of pets including a dog, a cat, two rabbits and a pony.

Mrs. Whitcomb taught Sunday School in the First Methodist Church, worked with the Parent-Teacher Association, Brownies and had memberships in other organizations including the Indiana Lawyers' Wives.

She did all the cooking with the help of the children, and she made most of her clothes and those of their four daughters. She also taught them to cook and sew.

She enjoyed designing dinner dresses and long evening gowns and often would cut one out early in the afternoon and have it ready to wear that evening.

At a Republican governor's conference in Lexington, Kentucky, Women's Wear Daily sent a photographer who took pictures of Nancy Reagan, wife of Governor Ronald Reagan of California, and of Mrs. Whitcomb as they came downstairs to dinner.

''I wore a frothy chiffon blouse — a lovely shade of pink — and with it a very full, deep pink taffeta skirt with sash,'' Mrs. Whitcomb recalled. ''When the photographer asked the name of the designer, I answered, 'Hoosier'.''

She had designed and made the gown herself.

The First Lady was initiated into campaigning in 1965 when her husband ran for secretary of state. She joined him frequently on his trips throughout the state. He was elected secretary of state in 1966; and in 1968, he was elected governor.

The First Lady chose a gold bugle bead gown for the dazzle and splendor of the inaugural ball at the Murat Temple where many well-wishers gathered. As the new governor and his wife waited backstage for their introduction, the Woody Herman band played "Anchors Aweigh." Whitcomb laughingly pointed out, "Someone didn't get the word that I was in the Air Force."

Later, at the Indiana Roof ballroom, the Glenn Miller band played the field artillery song, "The Caissons Go Rolling Along" for the grand march. More than 3,000 persons turned out for the two galas.

The Governor's Mansion at 4343 North Meridian Street was a busy place during Whitcomb's term of office. Committee meetings, teas, receptions and dinners were on the agenda.

"The role of First Lady was definitely almost a full-time job," Mrs. Whitcomb said. "Every week was filled with social appointments and attendance at various civic and political meetings with my husband. The scheduling of entertaining in the mansion and all the details of menu, guests, invitations, flowers and so on took time to plan and execute. Answering correspondence was a constant demand on time, but I enjoyed it."

Mrs. Whitcomb initiated Indiana's first Women's Leadership Prayer luncheon. Mrs. William T. Sharp was cochairman with the First Lady, and 1,000 people attended the event in the Egyptian Room of the Murat Temple. Mrs. Clarence Schnicke was program chairman and Elizabeth E. Inglehart of Palm Beach, Florida, was speaker.

Teen Tonics, teen-age assistants to therapists and physicians at the Cerebral Palsy Clinic at the Indiana University Medical Center, were guests at a tea in the mansion.

"So many wonderful people came to the mansion," Mrs. Whitcomb recalled. "I enjoyed the privilege of knowing them, and I soon realized how much stature people gave the office and residence."

Red Skelton was invited to dinner preceding his appearance at the Indiana State Fair.

"He rushed from a hotel dressed for the occasion, but in his haste he had picked up an old beaten-up coat," she recalled. "We had to send Mr. West (the butler) for his coat. What a lot of fun Skelton had with his own boo boo!

"Herb Shriner was our State Fair guest the year before his fatal accident, and Art Linkletter just after his daughter died of drug abuse. There were glad and sad times.

"There was just one coat closet in the residence, so guests took their wraps upstairs and laid them on beds,'' Mrs. Whitcomb said. ''There were two doors to the bathroom — one from our bedroom and one from the hall which people often forgot to lock.

''Once Ed was surprised when a woman walked through the wrong door and screamed, 'Why, Governor!'''

During the four years the Whitcombs lived in the Governor's Mansion, their five children continued in Seymour schools; and a college student lived with them in the Seymour home.

''They came to Indianapolis for special events and participated in festivities of special interest to young people,'' Mrs. Whitcomb said. ''The residence was not big enough for five growing children, and they were more settled in familiar school surroundings.''

''Plans for out-of-state conferences and trips always entailed making certain everything was under control as far as leaving the children,'' the former First Lady said. ''Packing and planning wardrobes for my husband and me also was time consuming. Keeping a house with five children in Seymour kept me busy also.

When the Whitcombs were hosts for the Republican Governors' conference, they entertained at the French Lick Sheraton Hotel. Mrs. Whitcomb arranged for a tour of the Indianapolis Museum of Art, and wives of governors came to Indianapolis by chartered bus.

Many events featured Mrs. Whitcomb as ''guest of honor.'' She was honorary patron at a ''Gift of Beauty'' style show sponsored by the Auxiliary to the Indianapolis Day Nursery at the Indianapolis Hilton. The show was presented by L.S. Ayres & Co.

''I visited institutions in the state concerned with mental health and 'special' children's educational facilities,'' Mrs. Whitcomb said. ''And I attended many meetings and made personal appearances for the Cancer Society throughout Indiana. I assisted with many receptions and luncheons in the mansion for philanthropic organizations.''

Swirling snowflakes and chilly winds didn't keep Mrs. Whitcomb from attending the ''Sugar and Spice'' style show sponsored by Crossroads Guild members and guests in the Murat Shrine Club.

''The State Fair was always exciting and busy,'' Mrs. Whitcomb recalled. ''One of the first items on the agenda was presentation of awards in the cake-baking contest in the Women's Building. What beautiful baked concoctions are entered each year! The late Mrs. Nate Kaufman was director of women's events then,'' she said.

During 500-Mile Race season, the Whitcombs entertained at checkered flag events, sometimes erecting a big tent on the lawn between the house and the garage.

Mr. Blackwell liked to design dresses for Mrs. Whitcomb, and he made several black and white "500" Festival ball gowns for her.

Mrs. Whitcomb said their 14-room house at Seymour is rented now because "with the children all gone, the beauty of the house is still there, but it is so empty.

"We hope someone will want the house who can enjoy the wonderful arrangement for entertaining," she added.

Whitcomb's mother recently had a long-time wish come true. She wanted to move back to the home place at Hayden, a few miles from Seymour.

"We had the house painted and papered, and she and her German-native companion of many years, Anna Habenicht, are cozy and happy there," the former First Lady said.

The Whitcombs also built a functional home some 20 years ago on 40 acres near Seymour, on land once known as 'the old Reno farm,' so named for the notorious Reno train robbers. Summer vacations were spent on the Ohio River bank where the family had some land between the National Forest and the river.

While Whitcomb was governor, the legislature created a law for habitual offenders, increased penalties for arson and lowered from 21 to 18 the minimum age for working in package liquor stores, taverns and other stores where alcoholic beverages are dispensed.

Provision was made for free tuition in Indiana state educational institutions for dependents of prisoners of war or men missing in action in the Vietnam conflict, if the missing man was an Indiana resident on entering service.

A part-time, 11-member Environmental Management Board was created to coordinate anti-pollution activities of state agencies and provide civic and criminal penalties for specified environmental pollution violation.

Rights were listed for elementary and secondary school officials to make and enforce disciplinary rules. Permission was given for expulsion of students for serious misconduct on school grounds, including use of violence harming school employees, pupils or property and knowingly possessing dangerous drugs, narcotics or weapons. There was a provision for a hearing before a pupil could be expelled.

The former governor sought the Republican nomination for United States senator in 1976 and was defeated by Richard Lugar, now serving his second term as United States senator from Indiana.

Whitcomb served as director of the Mid American World Trade Association and resumed his law practice in Seymour and Indianapolis. He now is vice-chairman of Environmental Quality Control, Inc., with offices in the Indianapolis Water Company buildings.

He recently completed articles about the history of the first United States aviation class, including stories about the various pilots of the Sacred Cow (Air Force I) for Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman.

Mrs. Whitcomb now spends most of her time in North Hollywood, California, where she assists with a family business — a joint endeavor with her brother, Jay Dolfuss, and his wife. They have a 20-year lease on the Original Honey Baked Ham Franchise. Alice Meese, Mrs. Whitcomb's mother, aided in the business until her death about a year ago at age 81.

The Whitcomb children are:

Trish Whitcomb, Butler graduate, member of Kappa Alpha Theta, former teacher, now working in Democratic political campaigns.

Ann, wife of John Guggenheim, food coordinator for Gemini, Inc., Indianapolis, of which her husband is vice-president. Ann is a Butler graduate and member of Kappa Alpha Theta.

Shelley and Alice, both Indiana University graduates, and John live in California.

The Whitcombs have one grandchild, Patty (Patricia) Guggenheim, daughter of Ann and John Guggenheim.

Elizabeth Ann Steinmann Bowen

(1973 - 1977) (1977 - 1981)

In 1977 when Beth Bowen learned there were from 50,000 to 75,000 incidents of child abuse in the United States each year, she accepted honorary chairmanship of the Indiana Governor's Conference on Child Abuse. Her work, however, was active — not merely honorary.

Indiana's First Lady met with chairmen in every planning session. She helped to get nationally recognized speakers, and through excellent communication she helped to bring together 600 citizens representing physicians, hospitals, nurses, mental health, public health and welfare personnel, school officials, judges, law enforcement personnel and lay persons.

"Somewhere a child is crying," she said, "and we must listen."

The program which she helped to start to combat child abuse continues today through Indiana's 92 counties.

This was just one of the many services provided by Beth Bowen who was an integral part of "The Bowen Years," during the eight years her husband, Governor Otis R. Bowen, was in office — from 1973 to 1981.

From the time the couple married in 1939 until her death in 1981, she was, in the words of Governor Bowen, "the other half of the team."

First, as the wife of Dr. Bowen, the small town physician in Bremen, Indiana, she knew the meaning of day and night calls. Then she gave support to her husband during the 14 years he served as Republican representative in the state legislature. He was the first to serve three consecutive sessions as speaker of the house.

Beginning in 1973, her husband was Indiana's first consecutive two-term governor. When his campaign slogan was "He hears you," she said, "I'll help him listen."

A native of Crown Point, Indiana, Elizabeth Ann Steinmann was the daughter of German immigrants. Her father, Alvin Steinmann, came to the United States from Germany, got a job and saved enough money to send for his sweetheart, Bertha, and his sister.

In 1914 he and Bertha married and bought a little meat market in Crown Point where they both worked. They became parents of Harry, born in 1916, and Elizabeth, born April 8, 1918, who was called Beth from childhood. When she was eight years old, her father died.

She and her brother graduated from Crown Point high school, but there was no money for college.

Her brother helped her to go to Gary Business College for two years.

"I wanted to be a court reporter, but only secretarial jobs were open, so that is the work I did," she said.

She met Otis Bowen when he was a pre-med student at Indiana University, and they were married February 25, 1939.

He was born February 26, 1918, at Richland Center near Rochester, Indiana. He attended high schools at Kewanna and Fulton and graduated from Francesville High School.

The governor's parents were Mr. and Mrs. Vernie Bowen of Leiters Ford. His father taught school for forty-three years.

Beth continued working in Civil Service secretarial jobs while Dr. Bowen finished his medical studies and internship.

Ninety-year-old Mrs. Herbert Eberhardt of Winona Lake said she remembers when Dr. Bowen, while still a medical student, worked at Wheeler Mission, Indianapolis. She and her husband, a minister, were directors of the Indianapolis home for friendless men. Bowen worked there for his room and board.

The Bowens' first apartment in Indianapolis while he was in school was in a funeral home where they received free lodging for polishing signs and answering fire and ambulance telephone calls at night.

Mrs. Bowen joined her husband in Pennsylvania, California and

Texas where he was stationed as a first lieutentant with the Army Medical Corps. Then for three years he served with the Army Medical Corps in Okinawa.

Their first son, Richard, was born just minutes before Dr. Bowen left the states for the Pacific assignment, and Richard was nineteen months old the first time his father saw him.

Dr. Bowen established a medical practice in Bremen in 1946, and the family lived in a century-old house.

Dr. Bowen was elected Marshall County coroner in 1952 and a member of the Indiana House of Representatives in 1956. After losing by four votes in the 1958 election, he was re-elected to the House in 1960 and served six more terms. In 1965 he was minority leader — and from then on his political offices continued through 1981.

Bowen may best be remembered as the chief architect of a major tax restructuring program which helped to keep the cost of state and local government in Indiana among the lowest in the nation.

Other accomplishments included:

- Improved parks and correctional facilities
- More family doctors
- Handling of a coal strike emergency
- Program to help low income families pay increasing fuel and utility bills
- Efforts to keep government records and meetings open to the public.

In 1976 the legislature enacted a new penal code which consolidated about 2,000 penal statutes into 200 and struck down scores of outmoded crimes. The new laws repealed a collection that had been in place since 1905. Governor Bowen had appointed a criminal law study commission to provide a final examination of the code in order for any flaws to be corrected by July 1, 1977, the date of the beginning of the new arrangement.

In 1977 Indiana become the 35th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, ending a five-year struggle.

Beth Bowen once said that "growing up in a small Indiana town, where I lived across from the courthouse and knew everyone, and being a doctor's wife at Bremen were good training for the wife of a politician.

"You become accustomed to interrupted meals and unpredictable and late hours, and you develop an extra degree of empathy for people."

Her attitude toward her husband's political career was, "I will go with him wherever he campaigns and meets people."

Before her husband's victory in the gubernatorial race in 1972, she accompanied him on seven winning campaigns for the state legislature and the 1968 losing gubernatorial bid.

She said of her husband's success in achieving the position of governor: "It was a stirring moment when he announced he would end his legislative career — and now we have an even greater responsibility to the people."

She always used her secretarial skills in assisting her husband, and she kept daily calendars, did correspondence and kept an organized program of the day. On the campaign trail, she passed time by crocheting, knitting and doing needlepoint and embroidery.

Throughout their many years together, the Bowens' thoughtfulness of one another prompted the even keel with which they met joys, sorrows and victories.

"Fortunately we both have a keen sense of humor," she often told friends. "Even with a long, long day of business there usually is some little happening that brings a smile when we talk."

William Watt, author of the book, "Bowen — The Years as Governor," said: "The wife was a near mirror image of the husband and an additional assurance that he was what he seemed to be. It must also be said that he was a near mirror image of her.

"Politics can be cruel to spouses. Too often, they barely are tolerated as ceremonial necessities, victims of endless gossip and unwelcome intruders insofar as subordinates are concerned...Beth however, fit in. The old-fashioned nature of their relationship gave it a special public charm. She achieved the right blend of visibility and unobtrusiveness, an unassuming yet engaging hostess at a reception, but a quiet observer seeming to focus only on her needlepoint as she sat above the balcony railing during his years as speaker of the House."

Watt also commented: "No probing of the personality of Otis Bowen can ignore the pervasiveness of Beth; they were inseparable."

The Bowens lived in a penthouse apartment in Riley Towers in downtown Indianapolis from January until May 28, 1975, while the newly-purchased Governor's Residence at 4750 North Meridian Street, was being refurbished.

The spacious seven-bedroom English Tudor house was purchased in 1973 by decision of the Governor's Mansion Commission.

The Bowens attended hundreds of banquets and dinners, but they enjoyed eating breakfast and dinner at home.

Mrs. Scott (Susie) Hicks entered her 23rd year as housekeeper for six governors, and her talents aided Indiana's busy first family.

She began work for Indiana's governors when Governor and Mrs. George Craig moved into the Mansion at 4343 North Meridian Street in

1952. Alvania (Mrs. B.N.) West cooked for Governor and Mrs. Bowen.

Beth Bowen was an excellent cook herself, and in 1978 she wrote a cookbook, "Beth Bowen's Favorites." The 280-page book had a colorful cover which was a copy of the pink, white and green tulip tree needlepoint on family dining room chairs.

Among the dinner recipes in the book was one for the governor's favorite food, Rouladen. The recipe was brought from Germany by Beth's mother, and it was served as a special birthday dinner through the years for the Bowens.

The Bowens had many guests at the Governor's Residence, including Governor and Mrs. Ronald Reagan of California and President and Mrs. Gerald Ford.

They also attended many meetings in Washington and in various states when Governor Bowen was president of the Republican Governors Association and of the National Governors Association. The Midwest Governors Conference, of which Bowen was president, met in Indianapolis.

Mrs. Bowen worked with the Indiana State Medical Association Auxiliary, of which she was president in 1974. She encouraged the return of the family doctor concept, helped with an observer-aid program in nursing homes throughout the state, urged young men and women in medical schools to intern in small cities and towns and assisted with mental health and programs for the elderly during her years as First Lady.

She had been state chairman of "Today's Health" for the auxiliary to the ISMA and also served as the state chairman for the ISMA legislation committee. She was treasurer of the auxiliary nine years.

As a member of the board of governors of the James Whitcomb Riley Association, she helped to recruit children for Camp Riley — 2,300 acres near Martinsville where crippled children can go on trails and sing around campfires. She helped to raise funds for camp and camperships.

When she was named to the Education Committee of the States, she traveled to seminars at universities in many parts of the country. Her attention was focused on the need to be educated for parenthood.

During 1974-1975, Beth Bowen provided information for the Medical Association Auxiliary, Women United Against Rape and other organizations which led to passage of two state bills concerning rape: A law which prevents suspended sentences for convicted rapists and a shield law for victims of rape.

Mrs. Bowen was named Indiana mother of the year in 1978 by the Indiana Mothers Committee. She represented the state at the American Mothers Committee national conference that year.

Vincennes University conferred as honorary doctor of humanities degree on her in 1978.

She was an active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Bremen, and served as president of Marshall County Medical Auxiliary and the Bremen Mother's Club.

A dream of Beth Bowen came true in October, 1980, when the Indianapolis Garden Club planted a literary heritage garden at the Governor's Residence. Fifty-seven markers identifying plants, with botanical names and appropriate quotations from 36 Indiana authors, were placed throughout the garden area.

The Bowen children are: Richard H., born in 1944, a Vietnam veteran, Indiana University graduate with master's degree from St. Francis, Fort Wayne. His wife is Sandra, and they have two children. He is assistant basketball coach at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Judy (Mrs. David L. McGrew, Jr.), born in 1948, of Seattle, Washington. They are parents of three children.

Timothy R., born in 1950, Indiana University graduate, affiliated with the Ball Corporation at Muncie, Indiana. His wife is Jacqueline, and they have two children.

Robert Otis, born in 1952, Indiana University graduate and graduate of Valparaiso University Law School, judge of Marshall County Circuit Court, Plymouth. His wife is Patricia, and they live in the Bowen home at Bremen.

Governor Bowen, writing about his wife's philosophy concerning their children, said: "Beth was always firm, but never defiant or dictatorial. She led them with patience and understanding and love, but her love also displayed discipline. She seems to tell them, even if not in the exact words, that they should always let their lights shine in whatever corner they happen to be — that they should give of themselves to those around them, yet not to expect fame or pay or favor in return."

In 1980, Mrs. Bowen, with the help of her secretary and others, collected photos of wives of Indiana governors — as many as could be located from the state's beginning in 1816 when Ann Hay Jennings was the first First Lady.

"I have seen pictures of First Ladies in various governors' residences in many states," she said, "and I think these women who contributed so much to Indiana history should be better known to Hoosiers."

Even as she worked on this project, she was critically ill with bone marrow disease. The photos were taken to Indiana University Hospital soon after her last public appearance. She had made a surprise visit (by ambulance and wheel chair) to a testimonial dinner for her popular husband at the convention center in Indianapolis.

When Mrs. Bowen looked at the pictures of some of the other First Ladies, she said, "Oh, I do wish we could have someone write a book about them!"

Beth Bowen died January 1, 1981. She is buried in Bremen Cemetery.

After leaving office, Dr. Bowen was appointed professor and director of Undergraduate Family Practice Education, the Indiana University School of Medicine.

He serves on many state and community boards and assists with countless programs relating to health, mental health, education and human services.

He has been called one of the most Hoosier of Hoosier governors.

In March, 1984, the $1.9 million Otis and Elizabeth Bowen Library was dedicated at Bethel College, Mishawaka. The 30,000 square foot building will contain collected papers and memorabilia of Bowen's two terms as governor and seven terms in the Indiana House of Representatives. Included in the collection are 40 scrapbooks made by Beth Bowen during her husband's two terms as governor, copies of 21 honorary degrees awarded the couple and 800 political cartoons and campaign buttons.

On September 26, 1981, Dr. Bowen married Rose Hochstetler, a widow who lived near Bremen, hometown of the Bowens.

Joanne Wallace Orr
(1981 - 1984)

She started her own polo team, spent a year as a debutante, sang a role in a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta and ferried bombers, pursuit and cargo planes from factory to field during World War II.

Joanne Wallace Orr is the daredevil daughter of the wealthy Norman Wallaces, whose chain of department stores — Ford, Ford and Wallace — is prominent on the Eastern seaboard.

"My grandfather, Andrew Bradner Wallace, came from Aberdeen, Scotland, and established the firm which is now more than 110 years old," said the wife of Governor Robert D. Orr. "People come from all other the nation to shop, even from Honolulu."

She is still a commercial pilot with a multi-engine unlimited horsepower rating, but she said she is too busy right now to fly.

"Every day is so busy in the Governor's Residence that I just get up and check my list. Sometimes before I get that done, people are arriving by the score for meetings, coffees, planning sessions and all the things that need to be done," Mrs. Orr said as she sat in the library.

Her Pembroke Welsh corgi dog, Oliver Perry Morton, stayed close by.

"It's a big job, being governor," she said, "but when Bob Orr moved into politics, I was totally supportive. I go along with whatever the work entails."

The Evansville multimillionaire had been a state senator and lieutenant governor before making the race for chief executive.

"I was proud to help him in his campaign just as I am in this high office," she said. "I like politics, but it takes every minute of time."

At 62, the mother of two daughters and one son and grandmother of four, she said, "Life gets more interesting every day."

Living in Indiana in the Governor's Residence is a far cry from her growing up years in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, as the daughter of Norman and Marjorie Robbins Wallace. Her mother's uncle, Morris B. Robbins, was undersecretary of the treasury under President Eisenhower.

"I was completely overshadowed by my older sister and my brother," Mrs. Orr said. "Marjorie was beautiful and brilliant, and my brother, Lawrence, was very competent."

She attended MacDuffie's School for Girls for eight years.

"Martha Graham came there to teach ballet, and I loved that," she said. "But best of all I liked to show horses, and I had a polo team — not for competition. My uncle had polo ponies. I was always out in the open with horses, and I didn't know how to relate to people.

"When I went to a small school in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, there were just six in each class. I was given a singing role in a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, and I learned to come out of my shell. When I graduated from high school, I spent a year as a debutante in Boston and New York City.

"That's when I met Bob Orr. He was a friend of my brother at Hotchkiss Preparatory School. I learned he was from Indiana, that he was going to Yale — and he made a big impression on me."

The Orr family has roots in Ireland. Governor Orr's great-grandfather, Samuel Orr, was born in Newton-Ardes, County Down, in 1810. He married Martha Lowry there in 1810, and they sailed for America the following year. They landed in Baltimore and then went to Pittsburgh. In 1861 Orr began a business, which continues today as Orr Steel Co., Division of Shelby Steel, Inc., Evansville, Indiana.

Orr's mother, Louise Dunkerson Orr, is descended from Thomas Dunkerson, who was born in 1763 in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. He married Lucretia Moore, daughter of Thomas and Phoebe Moore, in 1785.

Josie Orr, (as she prefers to be called) recalling events after she met Bob Orr, said, "We courted six years. We went skiing in New Hampshire and Vermont, and at St. Sabeur, Canada, and the Laurentian Mountains. And we became engaged.''

Meanwhile, she studied home economics at Finch Junior College, New York City, where she sewed leather gloves and designed dresses. She attended secretarial school and still loves to type and use shorthand. She worked as a nurse's aid in Springfield, Massachusetts, hospitals and had a ''crush'' on a stunt pilot.

''The war was on, and I heard about the Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs.),'' she said. ''I took off! I went to Abenger Field, Sweetwater, Texas, began the regular Army Air Corps training and became squadron commander. We flew bombers, cargo and pursuit planes all over the U.S. and Canada.''

She mustered out in December, 1944, to marry Bob Orr.

''We were married in the Congregational Church, Longmeadow, Massachusetts, and pipers were engaged to come after the ceremony to play on a special church bell cue. But they missed the cue and came in piping while we were marching down the aisle to the dum-dum-de-dum of the wedding march.''

They lived at Washington, D.C., where she remembers a colorful life while the bridegroom was in the Quartermaster corps.

''We didn't even see our wedding gifts for two years,'' Mrs. Orr said. ''Mother put them in barrels.

''Then Bob began a job hunting tour of the United States. While we were courting, he said we'd never live in Evansville; but he stopped off there for a visit with his parents. He visited the family business, the Orr-Iron-Co., a wholesale hardware and steel firm.

''He found that the youngest employee was about 60, and the firm had a big inventory of horseshoes and wagon wheels. Bob's business imagination went wild, and he phoned me to ask what I would think of moving to Evansville. I told him, 'Fine.' But I asked him to find a house in the country. I was three months pregnant.''

Orr bought a house sight unseen and when she flew to Evansville she found the house needed many repairs before they could move in. They enlarged the house three times, reared their three children there, raised boxer dogs and had a milk punch party there every fall.

''I wanted to garden, so I went to some experienced gardeners and they gave me excellent advice. In three months I had a garden copied from an English block print — one of the most beautiful I have ever seen. I used border flowers and graduating heights, all in yellow, blue and white — English daisies and all sorts of flowers which bloomed constantly.''

While in Evansville, Mrs. Orr organized a chapter of Planned

Parenthood, and she piled up countless volunteer hours in Meals on Wheels, the Junior League, Red Cross, historic preservation, the board of the Philharmonic and promoting the arts.

Mrs. Orr also participated in her children's activities and was once a den mother for a Cub Scout group.

"When the children were older, we sent them to boarding schools;" she said, "so they didn't get a deep involvement with Indiana."

Robert Dunkerson Orr, Jr. is a graduate of Yale University, married, an architect and lives at New Haven, Connecticut. The Orrs' daughters are Susan Orr Jones, married to Mike Jones, Evansville Courier reporter; and Robin Hale, married, who lives on a farm in Osceola, Missouri. The Orrs have four grandchildren.

Mrs. Orr recalls fabulous parties she and her husband sponsored in Evansville. At a circus party for 2,000 people, they set up food stands, brought in elephants and obtained a merry-go-round and 45 acts.

"Another was a black and white party for which we brought in a collection of bird cages and rented tropical birds," she said. "I'll never do that again! But the black and white party surpassed the one Truman Capote had."

Orr was elected state senator in 1970 and served as lieutenant governor from January, 1973, to January, 1981. While holding the second highest state office, he also was director of the Department of Commerce and State Planning Services Agency, president of the Senate, commissioner of agriculture and ex-officio member of several state commissions.

Mrs. Orr took one look at her husband's office — neon lights and bare walls — and took on a restoration project. She used portraits of Indiana governors found in the Statehouse attic, paintings typical of the Victorian period loaned from the Indianapolis Museum of Art, judges' chairs and a desk and matching console from Indiana National Bank's former quarters at 3 Virginia Avenue.

"I made it possible for the bank to put the furniture in the Statehouse instead of storage," she said. "A fire rail, a feinting couch drafted in Indiana and a pair of Staffordshire dogs for the mantelpiece were among other finds here and there," she said.

When Orr defeated John A. Hillenbrand II in the 1980 election for governor, Mrs. Orr tackled other projects.

At the official executive residence, she decided to establish a Hoosier-oriented library and arrange for construction of a distinctive gazebo in the spacious yard on Meridian Street.

"Pamela Bennett, director of the Indiana Historical Bureau, assisted me in forming a library committee," Mrs. Orr said. "We already have collected a good many volumes by Hoosier authors and are searching for others. They all are catalogued, and we want visitors who browse in the library to be aware of Indiana's rich cultural heritage."

The gazebo probably has attracted more attention than any other innovation at the residence.

"I don't mind if people laugh when they see the wrought-iron gazebo," she said. "That's why I put it there — to make people happy.

"You'd never believe the attention it gets! We change the decorations with each season. There are potted plants throughout the summer, turkeys for Thanksgiving, twinkling lights and evergreens for Christmas — and sometimes we add animals and birds from the zoo.

"People have picnics by the gazebo. There have been two weddings there. Many people come on the grounds just to look at the 12-foot circular structure, and recently a woman came to the door with a bottle of champagne and asked if I would join her in a toast to the gazebo. I appreciated her thoughtfulness, but I had guests."

The gazebo was commissioned from Gilpin Ornamental Iron Co. at a cost of about $4,000, all paid for by donations. The first guests to have an official look at the lawn attraction were members of the prestigious Kenmore Association for which Mrs. Orr serves on the board of regents. The association is dedicated to preservation of the Fredericksburg, Virginia, home built in 1782 by Fielding Lewis for his wife, Betty, George Washington's only sister.

Since the Orrs moved into the stately Meridian Street home of Indiana's First Family, the entire residence has undergone changes.

"I wanted to open it up," Mrs. Orr explained. "I wanted it to be beautiful from the very first glance. The people of Indiana appreciate quality and good taste."

The First Lady pointed out that no tax dollars have been involved in refurbishing. There have been gifts, bequests and distinctive furnishings, paintings and handcrafted accessories provided by thoughtful people.

New York designer Mark Hampton, a Plainfield, Indiana, native, assisted Mrs. Orr in initial planning stages of remodeling the residence. He suggested the colorful chintz fabric on the sofa and love seat in the living room and aided in selection of other fabrics and furnishings.

Focal point in the large room is the intricately hand painted Steinway piano which carries a marketing name of Gaeolean. The piano, originally a player, was purchased about 1933 by the J.H. Trimbles for their home at 4343 North Meridian Street, later the Governor's Mansion from 1945 to 1973.

William Forstyh's painting, ''Day Dreaming,'' hangs above the fireplace, and ''The Village Rider,'' painted in Nantucket in 1922, is centerstage above the sofas.

In the dining room the Sheraton cherry table and sideboard set the scene for luncheons and dinners, and a Lalique crystal chandelier adds richness.

The breakfast room features tulip tree leaf design in needlepoint on the seats of cane-back chairs. Custom made carpeting to match was acquired several years ago when northern Indiana needlepoint experts completed work on the chair seats.

Mrs. Orr chose bright blue and ivory patio furniture for the sun porch from which the visitor can view the expansive south lawn.

Upstairs guest rooms have a Far East theme.

Mrs. Orr added a semicircular glass inset above the stained glass window in the north entrance of the Governor's Residence. A nine by nine wall hanging for the foyer, made by Hoosier craftsmen, depicts the five governor's residences.

Mrs. Orr has plans for a greenhouse, and she has named a planning committee to stock the wine cellar.

Do the Orrs ever get to have dinner alone?

''Never!'' the First Lady said. ''Occasionally on Sunday mornings we sleep late and have breakfast together.''

Mrs. Orr is known for her gourmet cooking, and she wrote a cookbook with Mary Fortune.

She said she enjoys the coming and going of people, especially visits of pupils from the Indiana schools for the blind and deaf.

''We took time to let the blind children feel the lovely things they wanted to see, and the deaf children asked questions and had fun and laughed when signers answered,'' she said.

Vacation? The Orrs go to Lake Wawasee for tennis, and they maintain a home at Vail, Colorado, where they love to ski.

During the Orr administration, Fort Wayne flooding forced thousands of families from their homes, a state deficit brought a record tax hike, and the recession upped the jobless rate. Farmers during the summer of 1983 faced great losses in sun-seared corn and soy beans.

Federal aid was obtained for Fort Wayne and the farmers.

Indiana faced a projected deficit of $452.1 million, and Governor Orr called a special session of the General Assembly which turned to taxpayers to make the state solvent.

Although plant closings and layoffs were major problems, steel and automobile industries called back many employees, as did other plants. Unemployment, still a problem, has decreased.

The Governor worked with the private sector, promoted job training, targeted high technology a ''must'' for Indiana and helped to get investment capital for new enterprises and existing businesses.

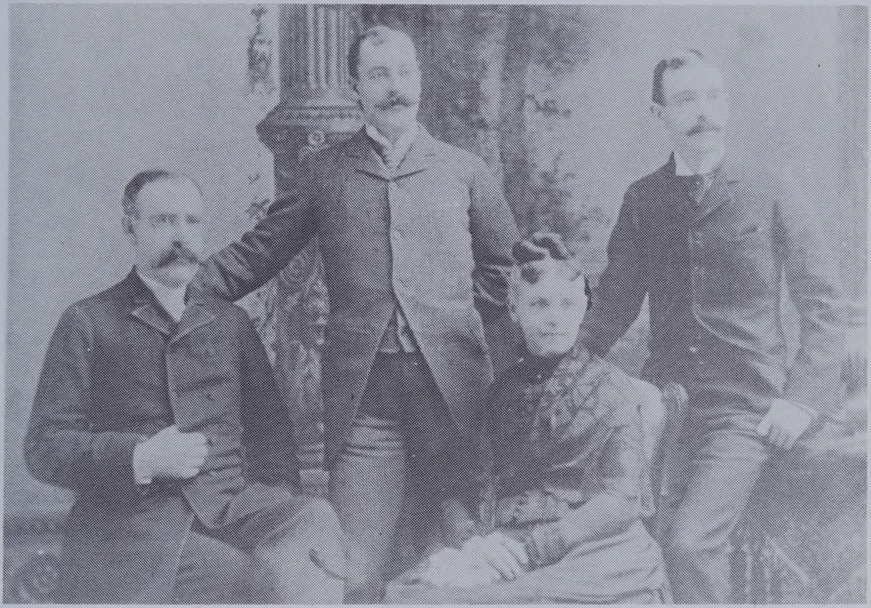
Longer school terms, emphasis on basic education, mathematics and science, computer programs for schools and higher salaries for teachers are among the many facets of education dealt with in part.

Utilities — high gas and electric bills — are a continuing problem. By law the governor named new members to the State Public Service Commission, and with the resignation of the chairman, yet another member. Orr forced abandonment of Public Service Indiana's Marble Hill generating plant at the urging of groups and individuals opposing the plant.

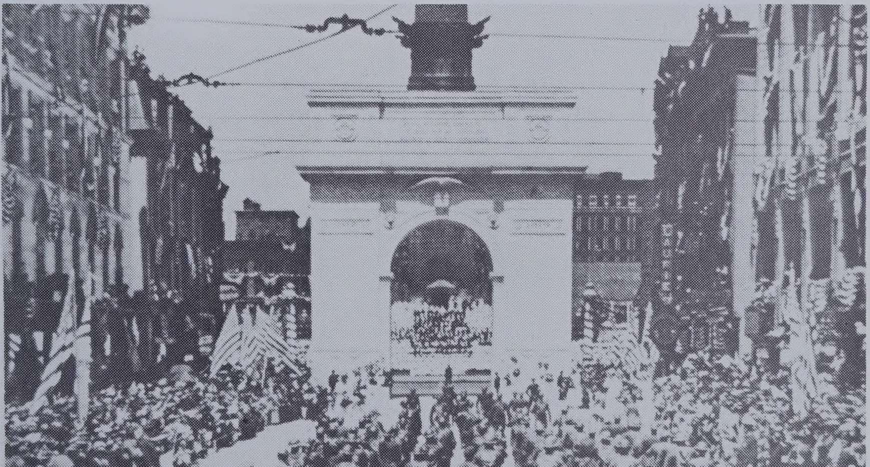
Mental health, corrections, roads and highways and need for improved nursing home rules were other concerns, as well as defense of the politicized license branch system which pours large sums into GOP coffers with some, but much less, going to Democrats through personalized plates.

In his candidacy for a second term as governor, Orr anticipates a hard fight, but he said he does not expect to be moving out of the office on January 14 when his term expires.

FIRST LADIES OF INDIANA — PICTORIAL REVIEW



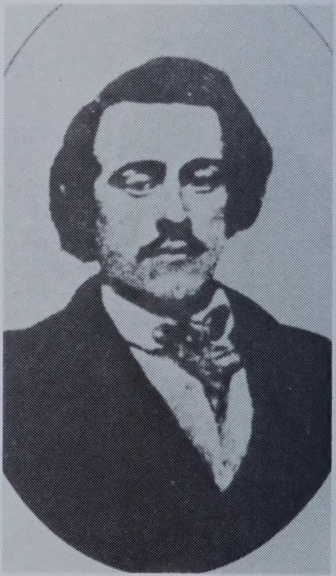
Lucinda Morton, wife of Civil War Gov. Oliver P. Morton, with her three sons — Oliver, Walter and John. This photo belongs to the Mortons' great-grandson, Theodore Santarelli de Brasch, grandson of Walter Morton.



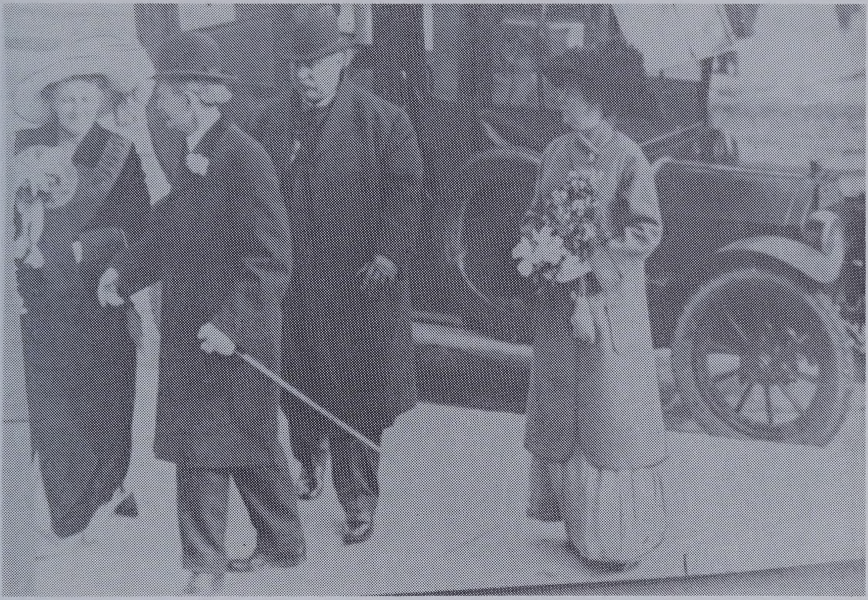
Gov. and Mrs. James E. Goodrich were seated near this Triumphal Arch (on Meridian Street) under which returning 150th Field Artillery and 32nd Field Hospital units marched when they returned May 7, 1919.

Governor and Mrs. Samuel Ralston arriving at a Democratic dinner in their honor.

Esther Hovey Menzies who served as hostess for her father, Gov. Alvin Hovey.



John E. Cook, brother of Caroline Willard, who was hanged for his deed at Harpers Ferry.



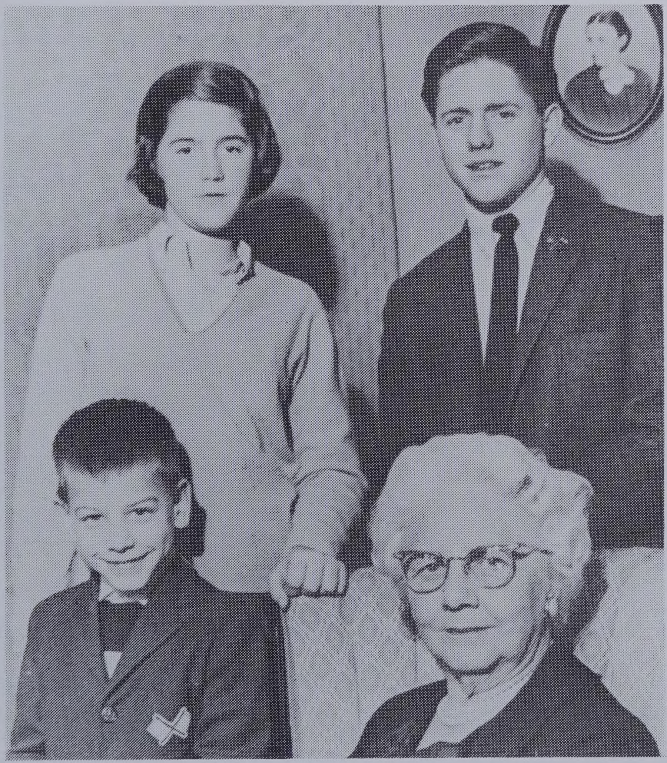
Mrs. Samuel Ralston, escorted by Gov. Thomas Marshall, and Mrs. Marshall with Governor-elect Ralston, entering the Statehouse for inaugural ceremonies in 1913 when Ralston succeeded Marshall.

Mrs. Samuel Ralston (right), Indiana Democratic committeewoman, chats with Mrs. William H. Good, Brooklyn, N.Y., and Mrs. W.P. Stewart (center) Phoenix, Ariz., during a Chicago meeting Jan. 19, 1943.

The first two-star war stamp service corsage made at the new World War Memorial building May 20, 1944, is pinned on Mrs. Henry Schricker by Mrs. Louis R. Markun, while Mrs. Oscar Ahlgren and Mrs. M.B. Dunn look on. A large group of volunteers staffed the center where corsages were made.

Gov. and Mrs. Harry Leslie with their three sons, John, Richard and Robert (during school days) at their home in Lafayette.

Arriving at a luncheon preceding the initial Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra concert Dec. 1, 1937: (l. to r.) Miss Elsie Sweeney, Columbus; Mrs. Thomas Schumaker, Richmond; Mrs. M. Clifford Townsend, wife of the governor, and Mrs. William H. Ball, Muncie.



Mrs. Harry Leslie with her grandchildren, Martha (Brooks), Thomas and David seated by his grandmother.

Gov. Ed Jackson and Mrs. Jackson with their daughters, Jo (Czenkusch) and Margaret (Parker) and their young son, Ed, enjoying home life when they lived at 5001 East 86th Street.

Mrs. Roger D. Branigan (second from left), was hostess at a Valentine tea Feb. 10, 1965, in the Governor's Mansion for members of the State Assembly Woman's Club. With the First Lady, and Mrs. Robert Rock (right) wife of the lieutenant governor, are three former governors' wives. They include Mrs. Harry Leslie (left), Mrs. Henry F. Schricker, center, and Mrs. Harold W. Handley.

M. Clifford Townsend, (second from left), former Indiana governor, and Mrs. Townsend (left) at the Democratic editors convention Sept. 18, 1944. With them are A.N. Pursley, Hartford City, and Mrs. Pursley.

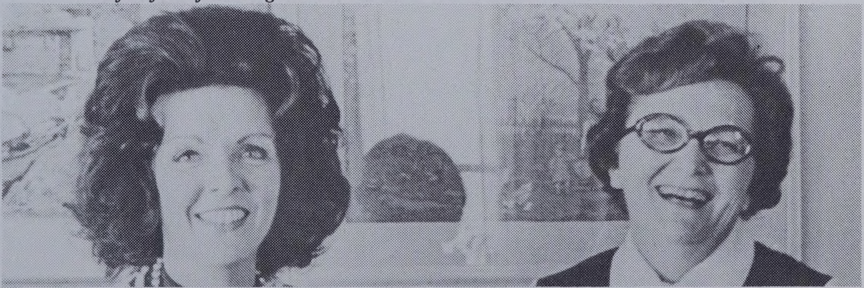
Hoosier born Carole Lombard (Jan. 16, 1942) in crowd selling war bonds at rate of $30,000 a minute — the guest of Gov. and Mrs. Henry F. Schricker. Miss Lombard and 17 others died that night when their plane enroute to Los Angeles crashed into a mountain.

Mrs. Ralph Gates, oldest living First Lady, shows a scrapbook to her granddaughter, Marcia McNagny, Columbia City.

Former First Lady Virginia Welsh and First Lady Patricia Whitcomb light candles at a tea for Indiana Assembly Club members, 1971.

Mrs. George Craig, Indiana's First Lady, driving the pony rig in the Farmers' Day parade at the Indiana State Fair, Sept. 9, 1951, when the governor forgot about the fair and went fishing with his son in Michigan.

Hoosier Phil Harris, actor and comedian, takes time out at a 1966 reception in Riley Towers to plant a kiss on the cheek of Mrs. Harold Handley, wife of the former governor.



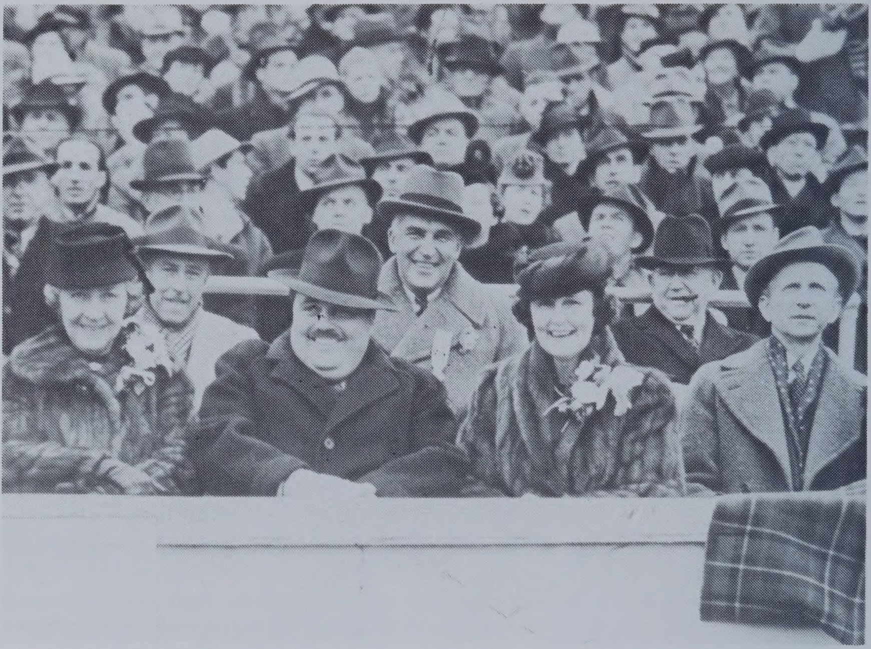
First Lady Beth Bowen (right) — with former First Lady Patricia Whitcomb at the Governor's Residence before guests arrived for a tea.

State Senator Matthew Welsh with his twin daughters, Janet and Kathryn, (in campaign hats) when the girls celebrated their birthday. They campaigned for their father in his race for the Democratic nomination for governor, June 21, 1960.

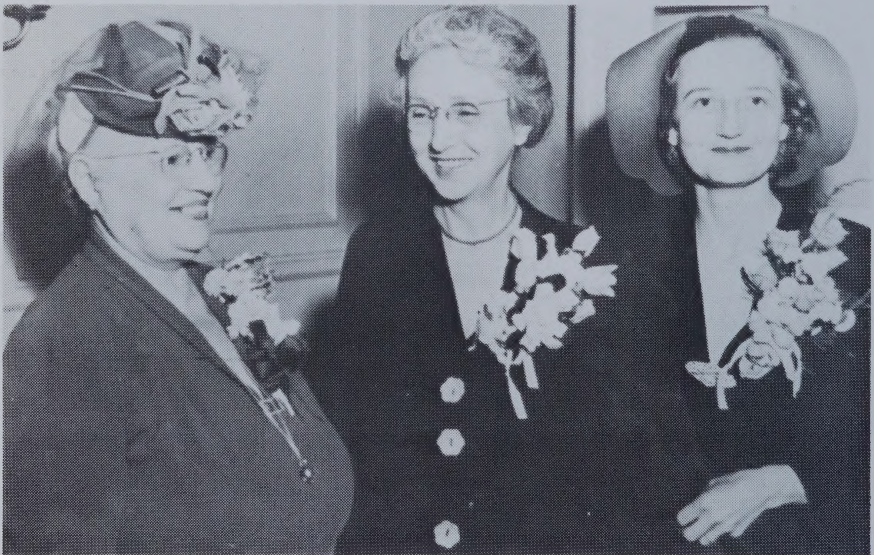
Gov. and Mrs. Edgar D. Whitcomb at Indiana's first inaugural ball since 1909 at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in 1969. Mrs. Whitcomb wore a gold bugle bead dress.

Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz with Gov. and Mrs. Ralph Gates (left) and others in the welcoming committee Oct. 27, 1946, when the Admiral came to Indianapolis to pay tribute to the U.S.S. Indiana Battleship, named for Indiana and built at Newport News, Va.

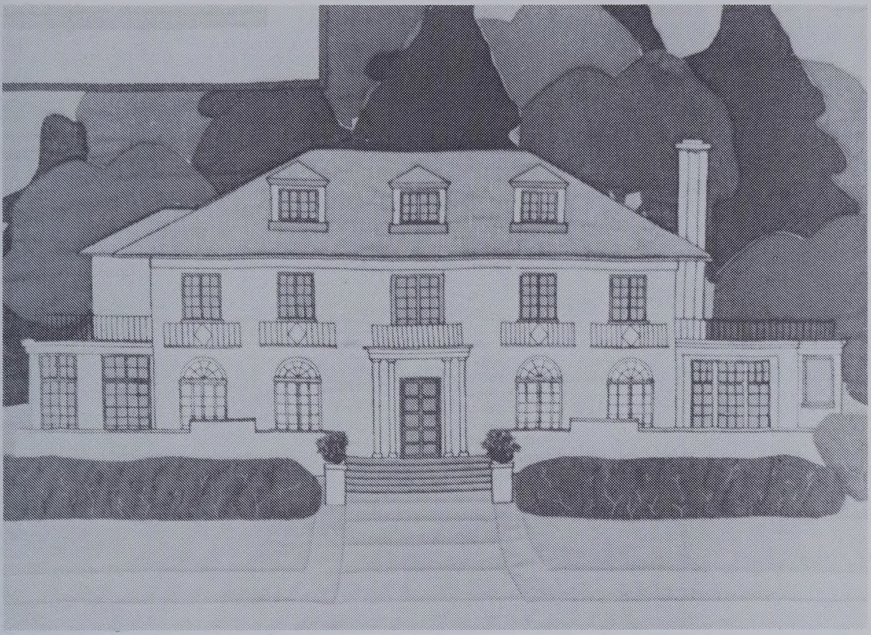
Mrs. Charles Bosma, (left) wife of the late State Senator Bosma, with former First Lady Patricia Whitcomb and First Lady Beth Bowen at a tea for the Indiana Assembly Women.



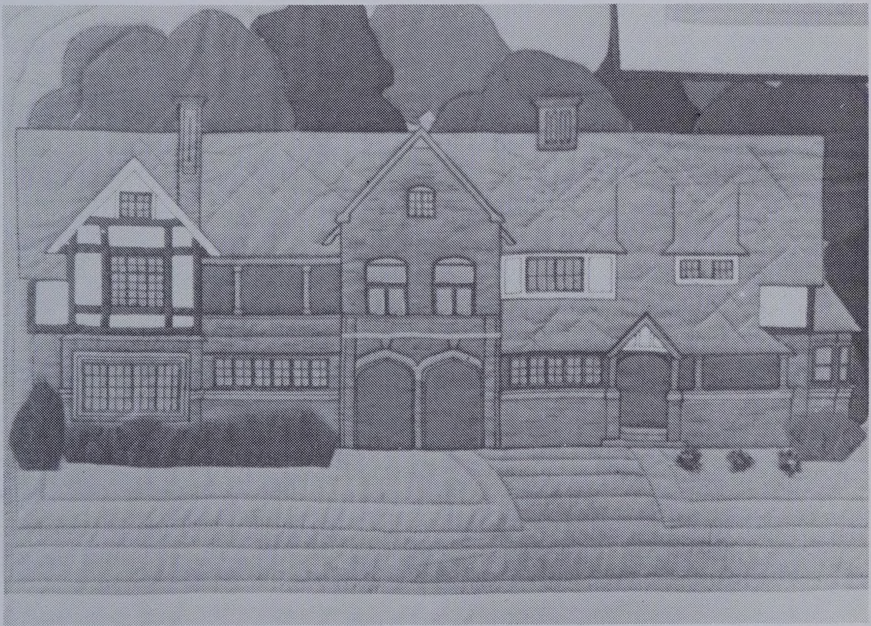
On Nov. 27, 1939, Herman B Wells, then president of Indiana University, had as his guests for the Hoosier-Boilermaker football game at Bloomington: Miss Lucy Taggart (to left of Wells), Mrs. Paul V. McNutt, wife of the Federal Security administrator; Henry F. Schricker, lieutenant governor; Thomas Taggart, McNutt and Hiram Stonecipher.



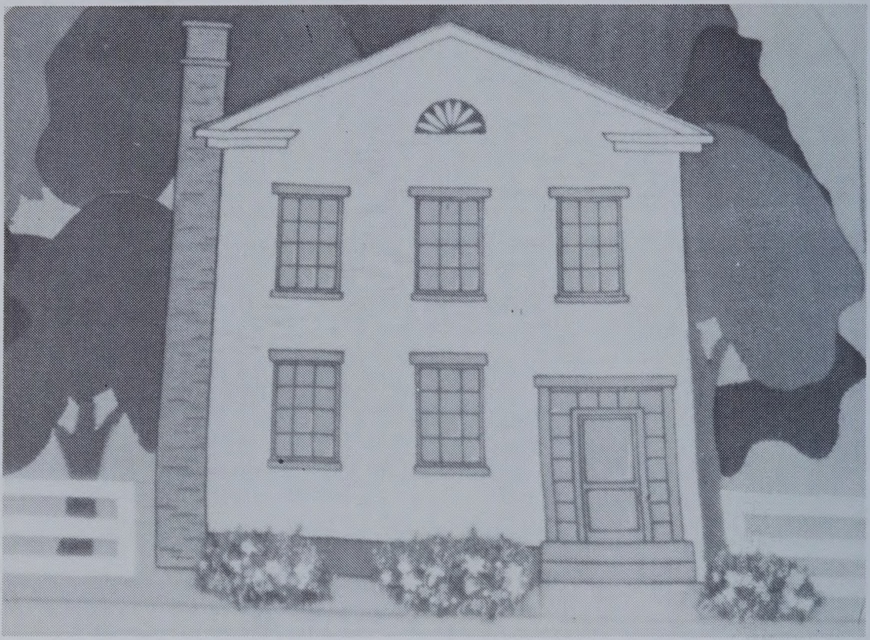
Members of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Indiana State Medical Association were guests at a tea at the Governor's Mansion Oct. 2, 1944. In the photograph (left to right) are Mrs. David W. Thomas, Lock Haven, Pa., president of the auxiliary to the American Medical Association; First Lady Mrs. Henry F. Schricker, and Mrs. James W. Baxter Jr., New Albany, state auxiliary president.



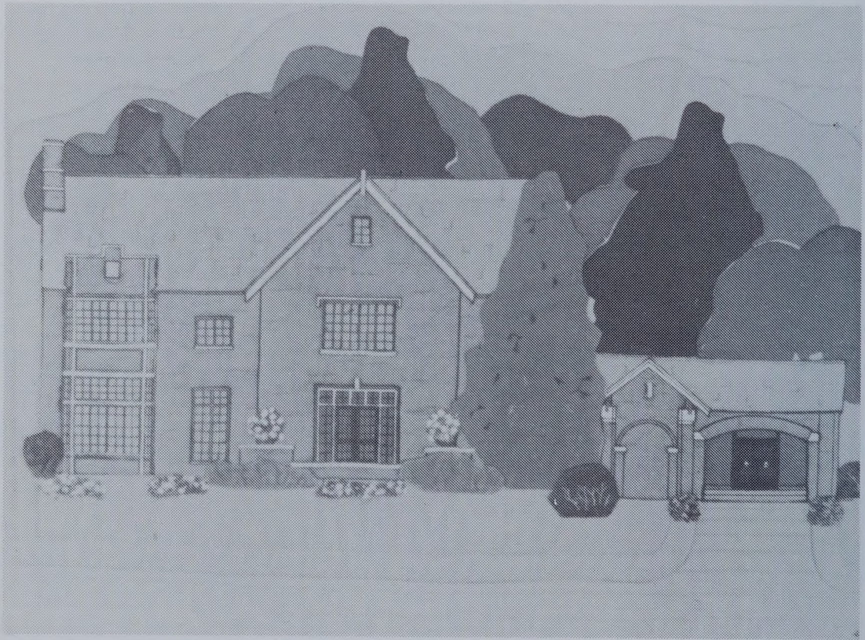
The Governor's Mansion at 4343 North Meridian Street, 1945-1974, as depicted in a wall-hanging in the present Governor's Residence. The collaborative textile work depicts the five official residences occupied by Indiana governors.



The Governor's Mansion on Fall Creek Parkway and Pennsylvania Street, 1921-45, as shown in the wall quilt in today's residence.



The Indiana Governor's Residence at Market and Illinois, 1837-1863, as depicted in the wall hanging in today's residence. First Lady Joanne Orr made arrangements for the quilted work.



Today's Governor's Residence at 4750 North Meridian Street, which has been the official house since 1974. This is in the center of the large quilted work which hangs in the foyer. The first Governor's residence is shown elsewhere in this book.

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References for First Ladies are from genealogies, family records, scrapbooks, diaries, family Bibles, library records, historical society files, county clerk documents, cemetery listings, newspaper articles (clipped and saved with dates), letters, government documents, photos with names and information and from many interviews.

Through my long experience on newspapers as a reporter, I covered politics several years, traveled with First Ladies and interviewed many others. Established Indiana writers — some recent, some long ago, shared part of their research with me. Among these writers were: Carrie Fenton, Agnes McColloch Hanna, Theresa V.P. Krull, Susan McWhirter Ostrom and Frances Morrison Rabb.

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Indianapolis News, Wayne Guthrie, "Morton Praised and Assailed," March 19, 1965.
Indianapolis Star, Razing Old Morton Home, April 6, 1909.
Indianapolis Star, Kate Milner Rabb, May 13, 1923, Morton Centenary Revives Interest in Famous War Governor.
Indianapolis Star, "Boyhood Days War Governor Recalled, Bert Ellis, September 5, 1939.
Indianapolis Star, October 24, 1934, "Morton Loses Fame: Skids for Statue."
Indianapolis Star Magazine, "Hatter to Governor," Ralph Brooks, August 17, 1947.
Indianapolis News, obituary, Lucinda Morton, July 29, 1907.
Indianapolis Star, obituary, Lucinda Morton, July 29, 1907.
"Life of Oliver P. Morton," William Dudley Foulke, Vol. 1.
Paralysis — Journey to Europe — Classified request by President Andrew Johnson to get interview with Louis Napoleon. Information supplied by Theodore Santarelli de Brasch. Also, invitation to Tuileries reception — attended by Lucinda Morton.
Photo, supplied by Theodore Santarelli de Brasch.
Sanborn, George, librarian, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, letters regarding photos of Lucinda Morton.
Senate, Brethren, from Indiana Freemason, January, 1970.

Charlotte Chute Baker

Governor's Mansion, Market and Illinois, Marion County Mail, May 22, 1965. (Historical Story)
Interview, Evans Woollen, Indianapolis architect, great-grandson of Charlotte Chute Baker (his mother was Nancy Baker Woolen.) Traced ancestry to 1066.
Interview by telephone (later letter) with Alice Holliday Miller, Shooters Hill, Richmond, Virginia, granddaughter of Charlotte Chute Baker. She reviewed material collected by another granddaughter, the late Mrs. Perry O'Neal (Lucy Holliday) about their grandmother.
Interview, Mrs. Louis E. Kincannon, board president, Indianapolis Retirement Home; and with Mrs. John O. SerVaas, immediate past president, about history of home.
Interview — Joan Bey, public relations consultant, Indianapolis Retirement Home, on history dating to Charlotte Chute Baker era.
Indiana's Governors, Conrad Baker, biography, from collection in Indiana State Library.
Indianapolis Star, June 3, 1961, "Home for the Aged," current status.
Obituary, Charlotte Chute Baker, The Indianapolis News, November 12, 1902.
Mannweiler, David, "Governors of Indiana," Conrad Baker, reprinted from The Indianapolis News.

Eliza Morgan Hendricks

"A Popular History of Indiana," with introduction by Eliza Hendricks, 1891.
Biography, Eliza A. Morgan Hendricks, Indiana State Library.
Biography, Thomas A. Hendricks, Indiana State Library.
Encyclopedia of Biography of Indiana, Vol. 1, Chicago, Century Publishing Co., 1895.
Biography of a Town, Shelbyville, Indiana, 1822-1962, Marian McFadden, Tippecanoe Press Inc., Shelbyville, Indiana, 1968.
History of Shelby County, Indiana, Chicago, Brant and Fuller, 1887.
House bought by Hendrickses at 1526 South New Jersey Street, Indianapolis, Indianapolis Star, July 3, 1964.
House in which Hendrickses lived from 1882 until his death in 1895 — 119-121 North Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis, picture.
Log Cabin in which Thomas A. Hendricks was born, Shelbyville, picture.
"Life and Public Services," Thomas A. Hendricks, John W. Holcombe and Hubert M. Skinner, Indianapolis, Carlon and Hollenbeck, 1886.
Obituary, Mrs. Thomas A. Hendricks, Indianapolis News, Nov. 3, 1903.

"Original Notification Address to Thomas A. Hendricks Preserved," Theresa V.P. Krull, Indianapolis Star, Sept. 1, 1940.
"Ringside in Hoosierland," Wayne Guthrie, Indianapolis News, June 25, 1965, "He was Called to Service Often."
Shrine — Hendricks House May be Shrine, George Aiken, Indianapolis Star, Feb. 13, 1955.
Shelby County, Indiana, History, Chicago, Brant & Fuller, 1887, in Shelbyville Public Library.
Shelbyville-Shelby County Public Library, information about Morgan Hendricks' birth and death dates, and portraits of the Hendrickses — provided by Linda Stark, reference department.
Visit to Shelbyville — and telephone interviews with Shelbyville residents.

Nancy Huffman Williams

Biography, Blue Jeans Williams, Indiana State Library.
"Blue Jeans" Williams was Colorful Governor, Hoosier Scrapbook, by Edward Leary, Indianapolis Star, December 2, 1973.
Historical Society, Ex-Governor Williams, Indiana State Library.
Home and burial place of Blue Jeans Williams, Forgotten 50 years, To Be Knox County Shrine, Indianapolis News, June 20, 1935.
Picture story, James Williams, church, grave, homestead, portrait when Governor, granddaughter, Ruth Martin, with her son, Harold, at pump installed by Governor.
Public Library, Knox County, Vincennes, date of death of Nancy Williams.
The Hoosier Farm Wife, by Mrs. R.F.D. (Mrs. Peden) Letter Recalls former Governor, Indianapolis Star, October 21, 1974.
"Republicans Found Real Campaigner in 'Blue Jeans' Williams" — John T. Harris, Indianapolis Star, June 2, 1929.
Telephone interviews with Mrs. Robert Peden (Edith) at Petersburg, Ind., and Mrs. Helen R. Freeman, Bedford, Ind., great-granddaughters of Nancy Huffman Williams.

Eliza Jaqua Gray

Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. VII, pp. 519-520, Isaac P. Gray.
Frances Slocum of Miami Lodge, Joseph Allen Minturn, 1926, Indianapolis, Ind. Globe Publishing Co., 1928.
Genealogical records, Jaqua family, compiled by Edwin S. Jaqua, Winchester, Ind. attorney; also records of Judson Jaqua and Lucinda Braffett Jaqua, parents of Eliza Jaqua. Also photo, Eliza Jaqua Gray.
Gray, Isaac Pusey, Indiana Biography, Indiana State Library.
Gore family history and genealogy, ancestors of Eliza Jaqua Gray. (including story of Hannah Gore Durkee, who lived in Pennsylvania near parents of Frances Slocum).
Letters from Louie Sellers, Bradenton, Fla., great-niece of Eliza Jaqua Gray (her grandmother, LaDessa Jaqua, was sister of Eliza Jaqua Gray).
Letter to Eliza Jaqua Gray from her younger sister, Terissa Jaqua Severer from Yankeetown, Darke County, Ohio, Dec. 20, 1861.
Letter to Eliza Jaqua Gray from her father, Judson Jaqua, New Madison, Ohio.
Letter from Eloisa J. Owens to "Cousin Walter," Mason City, Iowa, June 6, 1937, about Eliza Jaqua.
Letter to Eliza Jaqua Gray from Department of Interior, Bureau of Pensions, Washington, D.C., Marsh 23, 1901 — military history of Gamaliel Jaqua, her grandfather, soldier of Revolutionary War.
Letter from Judson Jaqua to "Our Children."
Keffer, Berenice L., former librarian, Union City, letters and much biographical material about Eliza Jaqua Gray.
Jaqua, John Philip, Toledo, Ohio, Jaqua family history-genealogy.
Union City News-Gazette, obituary, Gov. Isaac P. Gray, Feb. 19, 1895.
Union City News-Gazette, "Eliza Jaqua Gray Was the First Lady of Indiana, 1880-1881, 1885-1889," by Anita Short, Oct. 16, 1975.
Union City News-Gazette, tribute to Eliza Jaqua Gray, Oct. 21, 1975.
Union City Times, Feb. 14, 1908, obituary, Eliza Jaqua Gray.
Union City Public Library, information about the Grays, Virginia Hiatt, director.
Telephone interview, Mrs. George Jaqua, Del Ray Beach, Florida.
Winchester, Ind., obituaries of early Indiana people (including Jaqua family), recorded by Alice L. Ketron.
U.S. Senate Report, death of Isaac P. Gray, while minister to Mexico, 54th Congress, January 13, 1896.

Cornelia Stone Porter

Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis, record of burial, Cornelia Stone Porter.
Deeds, Ithiel V. Stone, Allegany County (New York) Museum Historical Files.
Porter, Albert Gallatin, Biography, Indiana's Governors, Indiana State Library.
Porter, children, records confirmed by niece, Mrs. Mark Pangborn Jr., Bethesda, Maryland.
Stone family, information from Irene H. (Mrs. John J.) Crowley, Altoona, Pennsylvania, formerly of Cuba, New York.
Stone family, information, George Spanneut, president, Cuba Historical Society, Cuba, New York.
Stone, Cornelia, family background, brothers, sisters, father, mother, from Bill Greene Jr., historian/curator, Allegany County Museum, Belmont, New York.

Mary Ann James Hovey — Rosa Smith Carey Hovey

Autobiography of Alvin P. Hovey's Early Life, Indiana Magazine of History, March 1952, No. 1.
Biography, Gov. Alvin P. Hovey, Indiana's Governors, Indiana State Library.
Interview, Mrs. T.C. Alexander, great-granddaughter of Mary Ann James Hovey and Governor Hovey. . .at Alexander home in Indianapolis.
Gown worn by Governor Hovey's daughter, Essie Menzies at her father's inauguration — information from Evansville Museum of Arts, Patricia Sides, registrar.
Photo made by Randy Dieter — have negative — from Evansville.
Republican ticket (copy) 1888 — state ticket — Alvin P. Hovey for Governor — national ticket, Benjamin Harrison for President.
Telephone interviews.

Rhoda Castle Chase

Interview, with Betty Hampton (Mrs. Charles), granddaughter of Rhoda Chase, in Muncie. She has boxes and boxes of history about her grandmother and grandfather.
Indianapolis Star Magazine, December 14, 1947, by Ralph Brooks, "Indiana's Greatest Heroine."
Indianapolis Star, April 21, 1963, "Home of Governor Chase is Just an Old Forlorn House."
Muncie Evening Press, April 29, 1926, obituary of Rhoda Castle Chase.
Muncie Star, April 29, 1926, obituary, Rhoda Chase.
Muncie Star, November 25, 1923, story about Mrs. Chase's 90th year.
Muncie Star, November, 1913, Rhoda Chase nearing 80 years of age.
Muncie Public Library, papers, tear sheets, other information about Mrs. Chase, provided by Marie Ann Coil.
"Our Neighborhood," Dick Green column, Muncie Star, 1981, mentions Betty Hampton, her mother — Electa Clark, and grandmother, Rhoda Chase.
Ulery, Earleen, Wabash Plain Dealer, letter about Mrs. Chase.
Wabash resident, L.H. Carpenter, letter about Mrs. Chase whom he knew.
York, Lois Ryner, Coatesville, Ind., letter, friend of the Chases.

Martha Whitcomb Matthews

Hardin, Susan Lynn, (Clinton Public Library) phone call and letter in answer to my letter to her — recommending that I write to Ruth D. (Mrs. William) Reed, at Clinton, one of Indiana's first woman attorneys, and widow of former mayor of Clinton — friend of Mrs. Martha Webster, granddaughter of Governor and Mrs. Claude Matthews (Martha Whitcomb Matthews), and great-granddaughter of Governor and Mrs. James A. Whitcomb (Martha Ann Renick Whitcomb).
Webster, Martha — through period of some two months, Mrs. Ruth Reed did interviews with Martha Webster (94 years old) in a nursing home — did not wish to visit with strangers — but would talk with Mrs. Reed. Mrs. Reed also sent much other material about the Matthewses.
Indianapolis Star, December 20, 1933, Claude Matthews early life, meeting with Martha Whitcomb in Ohio.
Kite, Michael, photographer with Conrad Studio, who took picture of photo, Mrs. Claude Matthews. . . sent negative.
Marriage records — Vermillion County Court House, Newport, Indiana, 1850-1904 — children of the Matthewses.
Matthews, Claude — biographical sketches published in 1888, biographical and historical records of Vermillion County, Ind., with "Biographical Sketches" with Lewis Publishing Co., pages 489-496.
Matthews home, Hazel Bluff, home of Governor and Mrs. Matthews, built about 1840, on land inherited by Martha Whitcomb Matthews from her father, Governor Whitcomb. Home still standing. Mrs. Reed provided much information.
"Mrs. M.A.R. Matthews Dying," newspaper clipping.

Kate Boyd Mount

Farm and Church letters — records of speeches which Kate Boyd Mount made.
Interview, with Mrs. Charles E. Kuonen, south Indianapolis, great-granddaughter of Governor and Mrs. Mount. She has boxes and boxes of family papers and pictures.
Lebanon Patriot, stories about Distinguished People — featuring Governor and Mrs. Mount.
Lebanon Patriot historical edition, originally printed, August 10, 1898 — reprinted August 1, 1969.
Letters from Mount children, showing their philosophy on frugality, spiritual matters, importance of scholarship, health, family.
Montgomery County History
Mount Homestead, photo and memories recalled by Mrs. Kuonen.
Obituaries, Mrs. Mount — three newspapers.
Speeches made by Mrs. Mount.
Wedding — Nicely-Mount — Indianapolis Journal and interview with Mrs. Kuonen.

Bertha McCullough Durbin

Anderson Herald, September 27, 1945, obituary, Bertha Durbin.
Chronological Table, Winfield Taylor Durbin, from Memorial, Freemasons, Scottish Rite of Indianapolis — 1847-1928.
Indiana's Governors, Winfield T. Durbin, biography, Indiana State Library.
Indianapolis Star Magazine, "Governor Durbin Lived Here," November 29, 1953.
Indianapolis Star Magazine, reprint of 1900 article, "Col. Durbin's Guiding Star."
Richmond Palladium, obituary, Bertha Durbin, September 27, 1945.

Augusta Rachel Simmer Hanly

Governors of Indiana, David Mannweiler, from stories in Indianapolis News by Mannweiler.
Indiana's Governors — J. Frank Hanly, Indiana State Library file — copy.
Indianapolis News, August 20, 1920, obituary, J. Frank Hanly.
Indianapolis Star, forum, Governor Frank Hanly, May 1, 1977.
Indianapolis News, C. Walter McCarty, column, "Fellow Taxpayers," 1958.
Interview, Harry Garman, grandson of Governor and Mrs. Hanly. Mr. Garman has complete history of both the Governor and Mrs. Hanly, plus genealogy — and photos.

Lois Kimsey Marshall

Angola Carnegie Public Library, R. Andrews, assistant librarian.
Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, 1908, Ethelred Naylor story about Mrs. Marshall.
History of Steuben County, Indiana, Chicago, Inter-State Publishing Co., 1885, information about Kimsey family, village of Salem Center.

Indianapolis News, January 7, 1958, "Widow of Ex-Governor Dies."
Indianapolis Star, January 8, 1958, "Widow of Vice-President Dies."
"Recllections of Thomas R. Marshall — Vice President and Hoosier Philosopher."
Steuben Republican, Oct. 9, 1895, Marshall-Kimsey Nuptials.
Tri-State University, Angola, Jack J. Nortrup, vice-president, Philomatheon Society information, Lois Kimsey a member.

Jennie Craven Ralston

Indianapolis News, June 26, 1954, obituary, Mrs. Ralston.
Indianapolis News, Lebanon story about Mrs. Ralston.
Indianapolis Star, "They Achieve," Lotys Benning Stewart, August 13, 1944.
Indianapolis Star, "Senator's Widow Still Gracious Hostess at 89," by Kathryn E. Pickett, November 11, 1950.
Interview, Jane LaRue McClintock, Clearwater, Florida, by telephone.
She is granddaughter of Mrs. Ralston — has much information about her grandmother — and other valuable family history.
Photocopies and artlines from Indianapolis Star and News library — tell stories about Mrs. Ralston.
Governor and Mrs. Ralston in winter photo.
Governor and Mrs. Ralston with the Thomas Marshalls.
Mrs. Ralston with Lucy Taggart when Mrs. Ralston was delegate to national Democratic convention in Chicago, June 28, 1940.
Mrs. Ralston trying Wally Nehrling's taste by offering her cherry pie.
Mrs. Ralston with Mrs. David M. Silver and Mrs. Katherine Dunn making plans for Jefferson Day dinner, April 8, 1945.
Mrs. Ralston and daughter, Mrs. W. Stewart LaRue, look at newspaper story telling of Jane LaRue, student at Indiana University.
Mrs. Ralston, Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall and Mrs. John W. Kern at state Democratic convention, July 1, 1942.
Mrs. Ralston with Mrs. J. Howard McGrath, David McGrath, March 1, 1948.
Mrs. Ralston with Mrs. Charles Greathouse when Mrs. Ralston was national Democratic committeewoman.
Mrs. Ralston with William H. Settle, chairman of the national committee for agriculture and former president of of the Indiana Farm Bureau.
Ralston residence, Hoosier Home, West 48th Street, Indianapolis.
Ralston biography, Indiana State Library.

Cora Frist Goodrich

A Portrait and Biographical Record of Delaware and Randolph Counties, Ind., A.W. Bowen and Co., 1894 — information about James P. Goodrich.
Frist Memorial Library — record of meeting held by Washington Township Library Board, Lynn, Indiana.
Indianapolis News, October 31, 1941, obituary, Cora Frist Goodrich.
Indianapolis News, August 16, 1940, obituary, James Goodrich, former governor of Indiana.
Indianapolis Star (from Washington Bureau) James Goodrich in John Hopkins Hospital, April 11, 1938.
Interview, with Nancy Goodrich Poniatowski, granddaughter of Governor and Mrs. Goodrich — recalls days spent with her grandmother.
The Past and Present of Randolph County, Indiana, in 1914, by J.L. Smith and Lee L. Driver, printed by A.W. Bowen and Co., Indianapolis, information about Mrs. Goodrich, schools, incidents in lives of both Governor and Mrs. Goodrich.
"Women of Indiana," Indiana Women's Biography Association, compiled by Blanche Foster Boruff and contributing editors; Matthew Farson, publisher, Indianapolis, Ind. 1941.

Ella Ade McCray

"Ade Had Own Brand of Satire," Wayne Guthrie, Indianapolis News, September 17, 1963.
"Autobiography of John Ade," father of First Lady.
"George Ade Home to be Restored," The Indianapolis News, October 15, 1962.
"George Ade Home Being Restored for All to See," Myrtie Barker, December 9, 1964.
"Hoosier Who Amused Nation," Indiana Magazine of History, 1978.
Interview with William H. Evans, Indianapolis attorney, grandson of Governor and Mrs. Warren McCray.
Interview with Barbara Evans Emison (Mrs. John C. Emison Jr.) Chatham, Massachusetts, granddaughter of the McCrays — Mr. Evans' sister. By letter.
McCray, Warren Terry, biography, from "Portraits and Painters of the Governors of Indiana."
Obituary, Mrs. McCray, The Indianapolis News, December 20, 1947.
"Personal Recollections of John Ade," father of Ella Ade McCray.
Photos of Ade and McCray homes, Indianapolis Star and News library.
"Then Was the Time for All Good Men to Come to the Ade of the Party," John Funk, Star Magazine, March 19, 1978.

Katherine Bain Branch

"Governor Emmett Frorrest Branch" — "Indiana" 1930 — biography.
Interview at Martinsville with Professor James Branch, in family home where the Branches lived before and after his term as Indiana governor. Professor Branch has much family history available, and many stories about his mother and father.
Martinsville Daily Reporter, March 27, 1967, obituary, Mrs. Branch, and photo.
Photo of Mrs. Branch with son.
'Straight and Honest Man,' was Gov. Emmett F. Branch, by Betty Walls, in the Martinsville Daily Reporter, February 1, 1967.

Lida Beaty Pearce Jackson

Disciples of Christ (Christian Church) United Christian Missionary Society Office, Indianapolis. Information about Lida Beaty Pearce Jackson as editor of publication.

Interviews by letter and/or telephone with:

Josephine Czenkusch, daughter of Mrs. Jackson, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

Margaret (Mrs. Ed) Parker, daughter of Mrs. Jackson, Sun City Center, Florida. She was too sick to write; her husband wrote letter and asked me to telephone her for interview.

Ed Jackson, adopted son of the Jacksons, Anaheim, California.

Mrs. Paul (Polly) Tveite, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Norman Beatty of Indianapolis (now deceased) — and granddaughter of Mrs. Ed Jackson.

Miss Margaret Parker, R.N., Allison Park, Pennsylvania, granddaughter of Mrs. Jackson (daughter of the Parkers).

Indianapolis News, Nov. 17, 1926, "Queen Marie Comes to Indianapolis."

Indianapolis News, Nov. 18, 1926, "Queen Marie Was Here!"

Indianapolis Star, April 17, 1956, obituary, Mrs. Ed Jackson.

Martha Morgan Leslie

"Being Lucky," Herman B Wells, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, 1980...checking banking appointment, information and date.

Interview with Leslie Brothers, John, Richard, Robert — at Leslie Brothers, 1101 East 30th Street, Indianapolis — with John as spokesman — presenting biography of his mother, and entire Leslie family.

Obituary, Mrs. Leslie, Indianapolis News, December 21, 1977.

Obituary, Mrs. Leslie, Indianapolis Star, December 20, 1977.

Photos with art lines, Indianapolis Star and News library — Mrs. Leslie.

— at Republican convention — Mrs. Leslie with Mrs. Edward Toner, Anderson; Mrs. John E. Scott, Indianapolis; Mrs. Paul Jasper, Fort Wayne and Mrs. James M. Tucker... June 19, 1942.

Mrs. Leslie with Mrs. Blaine H. Miller, October 23, 1953.

Hon. Harry G. Leslie and family in home at Lafayette, Indiana, January 16, 1929...day before inauguration as Governor of Indiana.

Kathleen Timolat McNutt

American Legion, national headquarters, Indianapolis, history file, Paul V. McNutt.

Interviews, John Hurt, attorney, Martinsville, Indiana, law partner, Paul V. McNutt.

Indiana University Alumni Association (Walt Schaw, director, communications) address of Louise McNutt.

Obituary, Kathleen McNutt Watson, Indianapolis News, February 20, 1980.

Obituary, Kathleen McNutt Watson, Indianapolis Star, February 21, 1980.

"Paul V. McNutt, Portrait of a Hoosier Statesman," I. George Blake, professor of history, department chairman, Franklin College, Central Publishing Company, Ind., Indianapolis, Ind. 1966.

Photo copies and art lines, Indianapolis Star and News library, Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt, Mrs. McNutt and daughter in Chicago for Democratic convention — July 14, 1940.

The McNutts at Sun Valley, March 5, 1949.

Louise McNutt, enrolling as student at Indiana University — pictured with President Herman B Wells and Admissions Director Frank R. Elliott.

San Antonio Public Library (John Myler, librarian) information about private schools, and listings from city directory showing residences and business address of the Timolets.

Nora Harris Townsend

Interview with Mrs. Townsend's daughter, Mrs. Robert G. Marshall, Indianapolis. Much biographical information on both Governor and Mrs. Townsend — anecdotes — family experiences — family background.

List of descendants of Governor and Mrs. Townsend, provided by Mrs. Marshall.

Obituary, Mrs. Townsend, Indianapolis Star, March 28, 1982.

Photos with artlines which tell stories about the Townsends — Indianapolis Star and News library.

Favorite photo of Mrs. Townsend.

Homestead.

Mrs. Townsend visits Riley Hospital.

The Townsends leave for New York World's Fair.

Mrs. Townsend with Indiana's Senator Sherman Minton.

Other photos.

Maude Brown Schricker

Biography, Henry F. Schricker, Citizens Historical Association, Indianapolis.

Biography, Henry F. Schricker, Indianapolis News library.

Biography, Henry F. Schricker, Walter A. Shead, Dec. 4, 1949.

Interview with Margaret Schricker Robbins, daughter of Governor and Mrs. Schricker. She has dozens of scrapbooks of the Schrickers — records of his administrations as governor of Indiana. She also has photos, and family and political history of the family — both her mother's and father's. She also has collection of her mother's hats and dresses which she takes to Knox, Indiana, Museum quarterly for a revolving exhibit there.

"Man in the White Hat," Edward Ziegner, Indianapolis News — also many other stories by Ziegner about Schricker.

Photos, Indianapolis Star and News library — with artlines which tell stories —

Golden wedding anniversary — Schrickers — November 14, 1964.
Neighbors honor Mrs. Schricker, December 2, 1948.
Arrange Soroptimist Party — Mrs. Schricker with Mrs. Hal Bryant and Mrs. Ralph Lewis.
Indianapolis Branch of State Assembly Women's Club — Mrs. Schricker with Mrs. Charles Dawson and Mrs. H. Nathan Swaim.
Mrs. Schricker receives pin as souvenir of launching LST boat., June 30, 1944.
First two-star war stamp service corsage given to Mrs. Schricker, May 26, 1944.
Many other photos — with Carole Lombard, who came to Indianapolis to sell war bonds — died in air crash enroute to California.

Robbins, Dr. Lewis, "His Charts Can Save Lives," (husband of Margaret Robbins).

"USS Indiana — a Reminder of Good Old Hoosier Pride," Tom Keating, Indianapolis Star, Nov. 18, 1981.

Helene Edwards Gates

Biography, Helene Edwards Gates — in her own writing — special events in her life, names of children.

Interview, Mrs. Gates, at her home in Columbia City — home she and Ralph Gates built soon after they were married. At 93, she lives there — with children and grandchildren dropping in frequently, and neighbor boys who do errands. She has large scrapbooks and files of Governor Gates' term of office, plus family files and pictures.

Letters — the many hand-written letters in the file were written by Mrs. Gates in the weeks and months following the interview at Columbia City — things she forgot to tell the author. She can't see very well, so she writes in large script with black ink.

Obituaries, Star and News, relating to death of Governor Gates, and Philip McNagny, son-in-law of the Gates.

Smith, Mrs. Walter Bedell — guest at Governor's Mansion, Indianapolis Star and News stories.

Ziegner, Edward, Indianapolis News, July 31, 1978, and December 5, 1977, Governor Gates.

Many copies of pictures from The Star and News library — events which happened during administration of the Gates. —
Admiral Chester W. Mimitz Arrives in Indianapolis to officiate at ceremonies for Battleship, Indiana. October 26, 1946.
First Lady with Kinfolk — Mrs. Gates with daughter, Patricia, and mother, Mrs. P.A. Edwards — in Indianapolis for inauguration.
Also note from Mrs. Gates to Star and News librarians: "Please use this picture if at any time you need a picture of me as I dislike the white hat picture in your files. Please substitute this and destroy the others. Thanking you, I am Helene Gates (Mrs. Ralph F. Gates).

Kathryn Louisea Heiliger Craig

"Ex-Gov. Craig as Busy at 72 as 30 Years Ago" — Bill Roberts in The Indianapolis News, August 10, 1981.

Interview with Mrs. Craig at the home of the former Governor and First Lady in Brazil, Indiana. She had scrapbooks and clippings, also photos, about family backgrounds, school, college, courtship, American Legion, first home, husband in law practice with his father, World War II, move to Indianapolis, political career. . . activities of family now.

Pictures of Craigs in Star and News library — Mrs. Gates driving pony cart around race track at State Fair Grounds day Governor forgot the Fair and took his son fishing in Michigan. Other photos — inauguration, Mrs. Craig with son, John and little daughter, Margie; Margie and Christmas stocking in Governor's Mansion, and many others.

Barbara Jean Winterble Handley

Interview with Mrs. Handley at her apartment in north Indianapolis. Biographical information about her family and that of Governor Handley — schools — work — World War II — Red Cross — how they met — beginning of political career — family — inauguration and run for the Senate.

Obituary, Harold Handley, Indianapolis News, September 4, 1972.

Orphan Train clippings, John Rutherford, Indianapolis News, July 8, 1978.

Photos and artlines — the Handleys — The Indianapolis Star and News library —
On the Senate (State) floor — the Handley family — between sessions.
March 7, 1949.
Happy Egg Hunt Winner — of "golden egg" at Easter egg hunt on lawn of Governor's Mansion — for Crossroads Rehabilitation Center. . . with Mrs. Handley.
Handleys Trim Christmas Tree — December 19, 1957 — in Governor's Mansion.
Mrs. Handley in ice blue peau de soie sheath — one of the dresses she wore at a formal party during inaugural events in Washington — January 17, 1957.
The Handley family in 1964 — Kenneth a DePauw Student, Martha at North Central High School — the former Governor member advertising and public relations firm of Handley-Miller — Mrs. Handley a Red Cross volunteer.

Virginia Homann Welsh

Interview with Mrs. Welsh at home of former Governor and First Lady in north Indianapolis. Family backgrounds, education, meeting at Indiana University, marriage, family, law office, Navy, beginning of political career, inauguration, life in the Governor's Mansion.

Memories of Statehouse, News.

"Politics Familiar to Mrs. Welsh," Indianapolis News, June 16, 1972.

Women Active at Convention, Indianapolis News, June 21, 1972.

Women Take to Campaign Trail, Indianapolis News, September 26, 1972.

Welsh in Drive for 2nd term, Indianapolis News, June 21, 1972.

"View from the State House: Recollections and Reflections, 1961-69," by Matthew Welsh, Indiana Historical Bureau, 1982.

Ziegner, Edward, "Ex-Governor Explains a Time of Tumult," January 22, 1982.
Ziegner, Edward, The Indianapolis News, 1983 legislative story.
Welsh story in photos — The Indianapolis Star and News library.
  Mrs. Welsh with Mrs. Peter A. Beczkiewicz, president of Indianapolis Branch, State Assembly Women's Club, and Mrs. John Coppes of Nappanee, state president.
  State Senator Matthew Welsh with two campaign workers — his twin daughters, Janet and Kathryn, 18 years old — their father running for governor. June 21, 1960.
  Mrs. Welsh displays the Alencan lace cloth with Taj Mahal design which she acquired for state occasions in the Governor's Mansion. Many other photos.

Josephine Mardis Branigin

Biographical Information, Josephine Branigin — Branigin for President Committee.
"Branigin Humor Won State" Indianapolis News, November 19, 1975, Edward Ziegner.
Ex-Governor Branigin Dies at 73, Indianapolis News, November 19, 1975, Jack Averitt.
Interview with Mrs. Branigin at her apartment in Lafayette — family history, both First Lady and Governor — education, work, marriage, politics, family, life as First Lady and so on.
Mrs. Branigin, The Indianapolis News, August 31, 1964, Judy Williams.
Previous interviews with Mrs. Branigin when she was First Lady — (the author covered politics, the legislature, First Ladies — traveled with her, also on campaign trail with her when Roger Branigin was running for President — as favorite son.)
Picture stories — the Branigins — Indianapolis Star and News library —
  Mrs. Branigin, honorary chairman, Centurion Ball.
  Democratic wives — campaign headquarters, Oct. 31, 1964.
  Branigin family — Branigin grandchildren — many other photos.

Patricia Dolfuss Whitcomb

"Bands and Bunting Welcome Delegates," The Indianapolis News, June 18, 1968, Margaret Moore Post.
"Don't Be a Victim, Warns Chief," The Indianapolis News, July 19, 1972, Margaret Moore Post.
"First Ladies Will Greet Mrs. Nixon on Arrival," Indianapolis News, February 4, 1970, Margaret Moore Post.
"Gala Crowd Welcomes New Governor at Ball," Barbara Beranek and Margaret Moore Post, The Indianapolis News, January 14, 1969.
"GOP Governors and Wives Attend Kentucky Meeting," May 1, 1969, Margaret Moore Post.
"Governor's Mansion to Echo Again with Active Children," November 6, 1968, The Indianapolis News, Margaret Moore Post.
"Hoosiers Plan to Attend Inaugural Festivities," The Indianapolis News, January 3, 1969, Margaret Moore Post.
"Indiana's First Family Gets Ready for Christmas," The Indianapolis News, December 16, 1969, Margaret Moore Post.
Interview, Mrs. Whitcomb, at Columbia Club, Indianapolis — biographical material about herself and Governor Whitcomb, school, marriage, home in Seymour, family of five — four girls and one boy, political years, campaigning, years in Governor's Mansion, and so on.
"Winning Whitcombs Rejoice Over Convention Victory," June 19, 1967, The Indianapolis News, Margaret Moore Post.
"Whitcombs Predict Win," The Indianapolis News, July 12, 1968, Margaret Moore Post.
"Whitcombs Plan Mansion Move," The Indianapolis News, November 26, 1968.
And — many, many photos of the Whitcombs in Star and News Library —
  Mrs. Whitcomb modeling a silk pants outfit designed by Mr. Blackwell, the Whitcombs at inaugural ball, Mrs. Whitcomb at Indiana's first Leadership Prayer luncheon (The Star, April 7, 1970). . . and many others.

Elizabeth Steinmann Bowen

"Beth Bowen Gave Lifetime of Service," Margaret Moore Post, The Indianapolis News, January 2, 1981.
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"Bowens Move Into Mansion," Margaret Moore Post, The Indianapolis News, May 28, 1975.
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"Bowens: The Years as Governor," by William Watt, Indianapolis, Bierce Associates, 1981.
"Doctor's Wife Is Veteran of Political Atmosphere," Margaret Moore Post, The Indianapolis News, June 14, 1972.
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"First Lady at Piano with Henry Z. Steinway."
"Four Bowen Chidlren Grow in Wisdom and Stature," — letters for American Mothers Association.
"Hundreds Pay Last Respects at Calling for Mrs. Bowen," Indianapolis Star, January 3, 1981.
"Indiana State Medical Association Auxiliary nominates Beth Bowen for Indiana Mother of the Year."
"Mrs. Bowen Will Take Helm of Indiana Medical Auxiliary," Margaret Moore Post, April 19, 1974, Indianapolis News.
"More Than 600 Attend Funeral of Beth Bowen," Karen Murphy, from Bremen, Indianapolis Star, January 5, 1981.
Packet of material about Beth Bowen — Margaret Moore Post, Hortense Myers, Kathleen Van Nuys.
"Writers Inspire Garden," Margaret Moore Post, The Indianapolis News — garden planted for Beth Bowen. (October 8, 1980.)
"Wives Reflected Times," Margaret Moore Post, The Indianapolis News, November 26, 1980. (Beth Begins Collection of First Lady Photos).
(Also many, many photos of the Bowens in The Star and News Library).
Author traveled with Mrs. Bowen many times — and interviewed her dozens of times during her eight years as First Lady.

Joanne Wallace Orr

Interview with Mrs. Orr at Governor's Mansion — biography of self, the Governor, family backgrounds, schools, travel, sports, aviation, business, moving to Evansville, children, politics — state senate Lieutenant Governor, Governor.
''Josie Orr Relishes Surprises,'' The Indianapolis News, October 28, 1980, Bernice O'Connor.
Mrs. Orr Redecorating Governor's Residence,'' Susan Headden, Indianapolis Star.
''Mrs. Orr to Be Hostess to 40 Kenmore Regents,'' Indianapolis News.
''Office Thrills 2nd Ladies,'' Indianapolis Star, Betsy Halliday.
Orr Family Tree, Indianapolis News, February 16, 1981.
''Orr Holiday is Month-Long Fest,'' Hortense Myers, UPI, December 22, Indianapolis News.
''Projects Keep Mrs. Orr Busy'' Hortense Myers, UPI, Indianapolis News, July 20, 1981.
(Also other interviews the author did with Mrs. Orr during political years — and photos in library — Star and News.)

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The seven living First Ladies took time for interviews, and shared with me stories about their roles and those of their families. They turned scrapbook pages, searched for newspaper and magazine clippings, identified photos and provided interesting anecdotes.

Sons and daughters, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of other First Ladies were generous with information during in-person interviews and those by telephone and correspondence. Other descendants provided genealogies of great value.

More than 300 letters were sent to libraries, relatives, neighbors, genealogists, churches, museums, county clerks, postmasters, civic and fraternal organizations and cemetery officials throughout Indiana and many other states. Pension records provided crumbs of information, family Bibles verified birth, marriage and death dates, and letters and family keepsakes added sidelights of days long ago.

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While all of the above had a hand in shaping the book, I alone must be held responsible for any errors or shortcomings. — M.M.P.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Margaret Moore Post retired recently after 30 years as a reporter for The Indianapolis News. She has spent 58 years in almost every phase of the newspaper business — reporting, editing, promotion and teaching. She took her first newspaper job while she was in high school, reporting for her hometown paper, The Plainfield (Ind.) Messenger.

Before she joined The Indianapolis News in 1952, she had earned her A.B. at Louisiana State University, and worked on several newspapers. She and her husband, Everett L. Moore, were publishers of The Mooresville Times the year John Dillinger went on a crime spree that terrified the Midwest. She covered the story for newspapers, wire services and magazines throughout the U.S.

She held the first of several teaching posts when she was director of the journalism department at Franklin College nine years. In 1973 the college awarded her an honorary degree, doctor of humane letters.

At The News she moved from the copy desk to public relations where she initiated The News Camp Fund, a science fair, the Green Flag safety program for school children and a book fair which brought 60 nationally known authors to Indianapolis.

With sponsorship of The News she began the nation's first volunteer crime prevention program in which nearly 50,000 Indiana women worked. Crime went down, and weekends she traveled the country at the request of editors, helping other cities begin similar programs. She was guest speaker at a White House luncheon sponsored by Lady Bird Johnson when Eartha Kitt told off the President. Nobody took notes, so Margaret was asked to brief the press.

She covered political conventions, the legislature, traveled with First Ladies of Indiana and the U.S. In Nairobi, she interviewed Mayor Margaret Kenyatta; in Jerusalem, the chief of police; in Athens, the education director. In Stockholm she covered the wedding of the King, and in London she was a guest at Scotland Yard.

Her awards include the Headliner and two Clarions from Women in Communications. In community service she won seven CASPER awards. She received special recognition from Freedoms Foundation, awards from the Hoosier State Press Association, United Press International, Associated Press, the National Federation of Press Women and 50 first place awards from the Woman's Press Club of Indiana.